



Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1887

Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office in the United Kingdom

THE ROBBER
 You should fear most is Eye Strain.
 He attacks you when you are care-
 less and off your guard; when
 you leave your precious eyesight
 unprotected.
GUARD YOUR EYES
 from strain by wearing
 SUITABLE GLASSES.
N. LAZARUS
 Optician,
 12, Queen's Road C.

No. 20,818

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日十二月六年亥癸

HONGKONG, THURSDAY AUGUST 2ND, 1928. 四拜禮

號二月八年二十國民華中

PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH

INTIMATION

A most Refreshing
 Drink for Summer:

IS

MARTINI & ROSSI'S
ITALIAN
VERMOUTH
 With Cold Water.

OF ALL DEALERS.

SPORTING.

SPORTING GUNS by W. W. GREENBER
 and Other Makers—British, French and
 American—also SPORTING CARTRIDGES
 of all descriptions.
 (Sportsmen are cordially invited to inspect
 Samples of GUNS by WEBLEY and SCOTT
 now on view at our Store.)

THE HONGKONG SPORTING ARMS
 AND AMMUNITION STORE.
 43, BEAUFORT STREET, ARCADE.

PEAK TRAMWAYS CO. LIMITED.

TIME-TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.		
7.00 a.m.	7.10 a.m.	
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Price: Per Case, 11 doz. qts., Duty Paid—\$28.00

SOLE AGENTS:

GANDE, PRICE & CO., LTD.

No. 8, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL

Tel. Central No. 135.

HONGKONG.

[183]

DAIRY FARM NEWS

DAIRY FARM PORK PIES

FRESHLY MADE DAILY

Customers are requested not to keep pies overnight in this hot weather.

THE DAIRY FARM ICE & COLD STORAGE CO. LTD.

LOTOL AND ITS USES

Lotol Means Sudden Death.

Cockroaches, Flies, Bugs, Ants, Silverfish and Mosquitoes.

LOTOL
is guaranteed to destroy and exterminate every kind of insect pest

LOTOL
disinfects and will destroy in 2 1/2 minutes the Bacilli of Typhoid or other Fever.

NO PLAGUE

Where LOTOL is, there can be NO PLAGUE nor any kind of INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

LOTOL IS MADE IN AUSTRALIA.

THE GENERAL COMMERCIAL CO., LTD.

10, Des Vœux Road Central.

Phone 3255

Sole Agents for Hongkong and China.

[638]

W. P. SIMPSON

(LATE OF DISS BROS.)

TAILOR & BREECHES MAKER

has opened Business at

ASTOR HOUSE BUILDING

Queen's Road Central.

2nd Floor.



PRESCRIPTIONS

When the Doctor prescribes he expects the Druggist to fill the prescription with Pure Drugs. The quality of our Drugs, Medicines and Toilet Goods is not surpassed. Have the Doctor's Prescription filled here and the result will be satisfactory.

THE PHARMACY,

The Red Building, (opposite Ice House St.)

PIANOS FOR £10 SURPLUS CANTEN STORES.

HOW THEY WERE SOLD.

Further evidence regarding the methods adopted for the disposal of the surplus stores of the Navy and Army Canteens Board was given last month before a Select Committee of the House of Commons, presided over by Sir Frederick Banbury.

Major H. Van den Bergh, formerly an official of the Navy and Army Canteens Board, was further questioned upon a report made to the War Office by Messrs. Rase Smith and Fisher upon the disposal of canteen stock. The chairman, reading from the report, said there were certain sales by the board to a Mr. Pollock, a hardware manufacturer, through the agency of a Mr. Stanley, a vegetable-grower. Mr. Pollock and Mr. Stanley between them purchased between July and October, 1919, cigarettes, cigars, candles, tinned fish, tinned meat, hosiery, and other goods to the extent of £133,000. The committee was made that it was difficult to believe that a hardware manufacturer and a vegetable-grower were the best people to whom to dispose of these goods. Mr. Stanley, an acquaintance of Major Van den Bergh, had been in the service of the board, and on leaving the major recommended him a bonus of £100 in respect of his services. In the report it was stated that behind Mr. Stanley was a syndicate, a member of which was a friend of Major Van den Bergh.

Witness emphatically denied that he knew there was a syndicate behind Mr. Stanley, who was only a business friend, and not a personal friend. The sales to Mr. Stanley and Mr. Pollock were carried out by his chief assistant, who submitted the offers to him for approval. He had so many other things to attend to at the time that he left it to his assistant to ascertain whether the prices offered were correct.

The Chairman: Did you take any steps to make inquiries about Mr. Pollock?—I left that to my assistant.

Was there anything you did not leave to your assistant?—My work took me all over the country.

Witness was questioned about giving credit to Mr. Stanley. The rule, he said, was that goods should be sold for cash. On one occasion he gave Mr. Stanley credit because he knew the money would be forthcoming. He did not know that in some of his transactions Mr. Stanley was acting for a man who had since been committed to prison.

The chairman said that he desired information about the sale of 50 tons of tapioca at £23 a ton, when the market price was supposed to be £25 a ton. These sales, replied witness, were entirely carried out by his assistant. In the circumstances of these sales it was not possible to take into consideration the normal market price of the goods.

Did you take the trouble to ascertain if Mr. Stanley was making a profit in addition to his commission?—Not personally.

Questions were put, to witness about some electro-plated cigarette-cases capable of holding forty cigarettes. These cases, which had not been manufactured at the time, were to cost 3s. 6d. each, and were sold for 3d. each. Witness replied that there must be some mistake, and the price must have been 3s. 6d. a dozen and not each. The chairman added that the cigarette-cases were never manufactured, and Mr. Pollock claimed £1,250 from the board in respect of loss of profit.

The sale of some sporting outfit to Messrs. Gamage was the subject of the next series of questions by the chairman, who said that these goods were sold to Mr. Stanley, who sold them to Mr. Pollock, who resold them to Messrs. Gamage at a profit of 25 per cent. The reply of the witness was that the negotiations were left to the late Mr. Fenton, his assistant.

Asked if he could state the total sum realised on all the sales he carried out, witness replied he was unable to do so. Mr. Fisher, when asked the same question, was also unable to answer it.

The Chairman: The object of the question is that we have now particulars of sales amounting to half a million sterling which seem to have been carried out in a very loose manner. One would suppose that there were other sales carried out in a similar manner, and it would be interesting to know how much money was received.

Colonel Hodge, referring to Mr. Blake, asked: "Do I understand that Mr. Blake was in the position of having in his possession delivery orders to obtain goods to the value of quarter of a million to which he was not entitled, and that he could have sold the goods and decamped?" The witness answered that that was so. He agreed that it was a very serious thing and ought never to have been able to happen.

"MORALLY RESPONSIBLE"

Armchairs, said the chairman, were sold for 3s. 6d., whereas the market price was said to be 11s. to 15s.; small chairs at 3s. 6d. instead of 4s. 6d. to 7s., and pianos were sold for £10, £14, and £18. A lot of these goods, replied witness, were in poor condition and lying in the open, and had to be disposed of at once.

Mr. J. Robertson: You have said you were so busy that you had to leave these sales to Mr. Fenton, so that the honour or dishonour is on a man who is dead and cannot answer for himself—I was morally responsible.

The Chairman: Witness has not attempted to evade responsibility. He has admitted that Mr. Fenton submitted the prices to him. Your question contains the innuendo that the witness is sheltering himself behind a dead man. I do not think that is fair. The witness has been quite fair on that point.

Sir Francis Towle was the next witness. He said he was at present managing director of the Gordon Hotel. He was a member of the Board of Management of the Navy and Army Canteens. One of the great difficulties with which they had to contend was that they were confined entirely to C3 men. There was an absence of accountants; such as they had they had to create for themselves. During the period from the signing of the Armistice to the latter end of 1919 the problems were different from those which presented themselves during the war period, one of the difficulties being that officers were constantly asking for release in order to take up civil employment. There were also two unusual factors which reduced the price at which the stock could be sold; one was that war material was being

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

THE STRAIN OF THE TROPICS. A FLYING MAN'S VIEWS.

The control of the higher brain-centres over the lower is diminished by tropical conditions of life, according to Squadron-Leader T. F. Rippon of the British Air Service, who led a discussion of the subject at a recent meeting of the War Section of the Royal Society of Medicine in London. The speaker first alluded to the marked effect of eye trouble due to tropical glare. Such trouble might manifest itself, he said, as a superficial irritation with headache, or as retinal fatigue, with dimness of vision at night, or as an inability to sustain accommodative and convergent efforts for any length of time. He had examined certain flying men in Egypt who showed signs of this last defect, says *The British Medical Journal* in an abstract of his paper.

"He found in a certain group of men who had complained of eye fatigue that their power of accommodation was only about half what it should have been. The disability was more noticeable in the months of May and June than in April. Only when there was marked failure of accommodation for near points was the judgment disturbed; but even the seasoned pilot, when his eyes showed signs of wear and tear on account of tropical glare, would admit that he no longer made his landings automatically as he used to do, but had to take conscious care and deliberation, and was often filled with apprehension."

ANGER OVER TRIFLES.

"Besides the fatigue caused by heat and glare, and the irritation from insect bites, there were other tropical conditions, such as lack of nourishing food and periodic attacks of gastric disorder, which were likely to impair the higher centres control over the lower. Thus the resident in the tropics might be unable to concentrate, or might give way to anger over trifles. An intelligent adaptation to environment would discount these effects in time. Other predisposing factors in tropical life included the sense of being always under critical observation, an exaggerated desire to maintain prestige, and the strain of keeping watch over emotions, associated perhaps with racial antipathies. The European in India, where the Mutiny was still remembered, could not forget that he was living in the midst of a potentially hostile race, and it was this which accounted probably for the habit of Englishmen in India at every station to congregate in clubs. To these conditions, in the case of men in the Air Service, was added the emotional stress of an occupation which was a new adaptation of the human organism, was taken up by the individual in adult life without previous education, and was associated with danger on every occasion."

NEURASTHENIA.

In the course of a brief discussion, Major J. W. Spencer suggested that neurasthenia might explain many of the "mental or nervous symptoms" seen among men on tropical service. The neurasthenic was under the sway of an emotion of which he could not get rid by the exercise of his free will, and which paralyzed or undermined his judgment; he showed also a loss of power of concentration, and a general lack of mental energy, or an inability to pull himself together. The man who had been in the tropics for a number of years, although he returned home vigorous enough in general health, often complained of some impairment of memory and a difficulty in taking up close work, such as study for an examination, which might be required of him; also he inclined to pessimism. These were the symptoms of the neurasthenic. The great saving thing in the tropics was to have some interest outside oneself which would serve as a way of escape. It might take the form of religion, family devotion, or genuine interest in work or sport. Service abroad took a man away from all his former associations and subjected him to the strain of a hot climate, and to other strains, but the worst thing it did was to leave him with considerable unoccupied spaces of time. Such conditions gradually led to a habit of introspection, which was the beginning of the neurasthenic state.

THE LIVER.

The remainder of the discussion consisted of a few remarks by several speakers on the irritability often shown by the tropical resident. The general idea appeared to be that it was due to congestion of the liver. Squadron-Leader Rippon agreed that the liver might have much to answer for, but he still held to the view that the primary cause was a loss of psychic tone, resulting in a diminished control by the higher centres over the lower.

sold all over the world, and the other was that Germany and Russia did not purchase as had been anticipated. The bulk of the profits of the Expeditionary Force Canteen and the Navy and Army Canteen Board were not trading profits but profits due to a rise in the market value; for that reason he said that all profits were to be regarded as paper profits until the business was finally wound up.

The chairman pointed out that the E.F.C. showed a balance of nearly £10,000,000 and asked if part of this was to be regarded as paper profits. Witness replied that that was so, in so far as they were not realised. When the N.A.C.B. took over the E.F.C. they not only took over goods, but had to go on buying on a falling market. Much of this stock turned out not to be required. Once the market began to fall it affected all the goods on hand, not merely those which were being purchased. His desire was to sell the surplus stocks by auction, but after about twenty auctions the amount they sold was "childish." Three or four thousand pounds was "a jolly good day." At that rate it was quite impossible to dispose of two or three million pounds' worth of goods. It was, therefore, necessary to adopt some other means of disposal.

Asked if he was satisfied with Major Van den Bergh's conduct of the sales, the witness said he could not be satisfied as his instructions had not been carried out.

Colonel Hodge: Do you consider there was any dishonesty on the part of Major Van den Bergh? I have not the slightest suspicion of anything of that kind. He worked for me and was successful. Until this arose I never heard any criticism against him.

Mr. Robertson: Do you say that the conduct of the business conformed as far as possible with general business principles?—So far as I was able to make it in the general circumstances of the case. The Committee adjourned.

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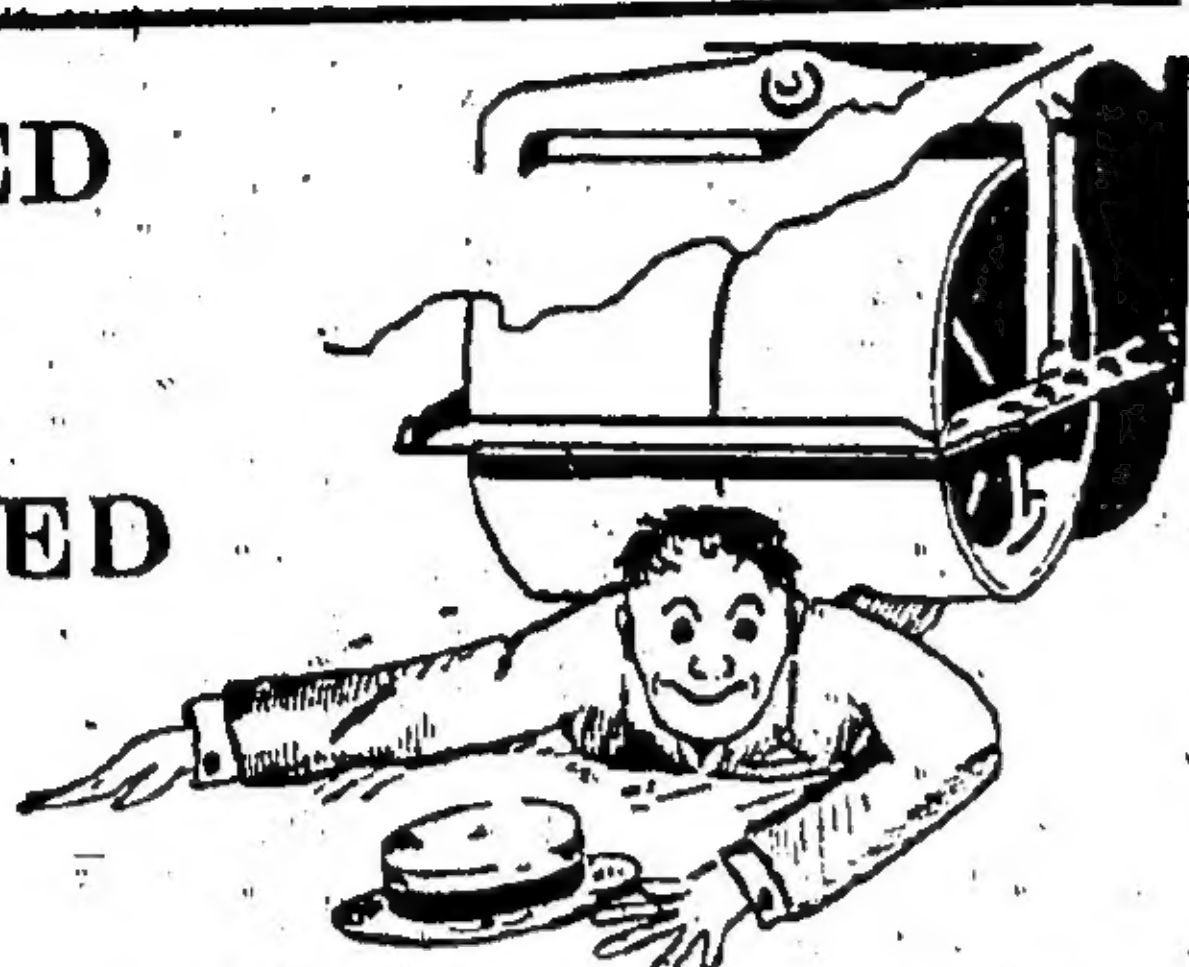
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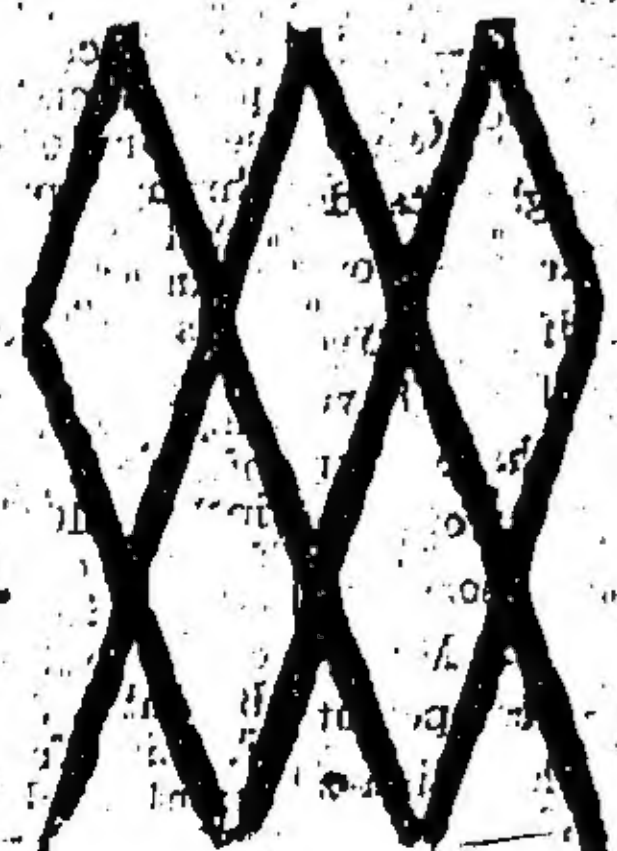
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IMPERIAL PREFERENCE THE DUTY ON TEA.

The House of Commons went into Committee on the Finance Bill on June 11th. On Clause 1, which provides for a duty of 8d. in the pound on tea, subject to Section 8 of the Finance Act of 1919, relating to Imperial preference.

Mr. Bonwick moved to leave out the words providing for Imperial preference with regard to tea. It seems to him that the British taxpayer had to make up the loss in duties resulting from the grant of Imperial preference, and yet did not get the commodities any cheaper. The Dominions did not want preference at the expense of the people of Great Britain.

Mr. Remer suggested that unless we had a business association with our Empire of a very wide nature sooner or later the Dominions would want to separate themselves from the Empire.

Lieut. Commander Kenworthy submitted that it was ridiculous to suggest that the integrity of the Empire depended upon these twopenny halfpenny preference duties on tea, etc.

Lieut. Colonel Croft said it was a mockery to say that the preference did not affect the Overseas Dominions.

Mr. Barnes said the preference duty on tea gave no advantage to either the Indian grower or the consumer, and it was unanimously opposed by the British tea trade. There was nothing to defend it.

Capt. Berkeley, as a convinced Free trader, supported the preference, though he would have preferred to see the duty taken off altogether.

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks replied that the duty on tea had always been part of the general system of taxation of this country, the idea being that all sections of the community should contribute a share to the taxation. Imperially produced tea was 90 per cent. of the whole amount imported. That was a case in which Imperial preference had given a distinct advantage to the consumer. In the case of cocoa the consumption of the Imperial produce had increased from 50 to 60 per cent. of the imports. The increase in the consumption of Imperially grown coffee was from 20 per cent. of the import to 45 per cent. in 1922. Last year it fell to 35 per cent. owing to the failure of the crop in East Africa. The proportion of Empire sugar had increased from 7 per cent. before the war to 22 per cent. this year. The import of Empire-grown rum and tobacco had also increased. Imperial preference had either, as in the case of tea, reduced the cost to the consumer, as in the case of many other commodities, increased production in the Dominions.

Mr. T. Johnston: Is your Chancellor-ship in favour of it?

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks said that when Mr. McKenna was a member of the House the hon. members would be able to put questions to him. In the words of Mr. A. Chamberlain last year, this was a spiritual recognition of a spiritual bond. (Liberal and Labour laughter.) That laughter showed on which side of the House were those who had the interests of the Empire at heart.

Mr. Pringle said that rubbish could do duty in the last Parliament, but not in this. The bond which bound the Dominions to this country was not the Customs Houses, duties, and taxes. As Burke once said, it was the spirit of kindred language and kindred blood. He wondered if and when Mr. McKenna came into the House he would maintain his old attitude towards those duties.

On a division the amendment was negatived by 255 votes to 150—Government majority, 105.

TO ABOLISH THE DUTY.

Mr. Johnston moved an amendment to abolish the duty on tea as from December 31st next. The tea trade would offer no objection to the amendment because, according to report, members of that trade were at present making fabulous profits.

Commander Bellairs said the arguments against the tea duty might with equal force be applied in the case of sugar, which, if the duties in each case were abolished, would mean that the person with a small income would pay no taxation at all.

Mr. Broad, in supporting the amendment, said that of all indirect taxes those on tea and sugar were about the meanest ever imposed, except, perhaps, the tax which was once put on bread.

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks defended the tax on two grounds. In the first case it involved £11,500,000, and in the second place every member of the community should pay something. It was hard on the old-age pensioner and the agricultural labourer getting 25s. a week, but at the same time it was desirable that the interests of good government that everybody should take a share.

Sir A. Mond said that of all the indirect taxes the tea tax bore most heavily on the population. If it was possible to give a greater reduction on beer it should be possible to give a greater reduction on tea. He was amazed at the patience of the taxpayer who really went on believing the statement that came from the Treasury year after year that he must, like a patient mule or donkey, go on bearing this heavy burden of taxation as no reduction could be made. That statement was not true, and no competent financier in the City or elsewhere agreed with it. He would like to enter a protest against this stereotyped method of dealing with the great financial problems which faced us to-day. This country was sick and tired of being told that nothing more could be done in the way of reducing taxation. Something must be done.

Sir T. Inskip (Solicitor-General), in replying, said that it would be very difficult to impose an *ad valorem* duty on tea. The effect of such a duty was to drive people to lower-valued articles, and the poorer classes, who by no means used only the cheapest tea, would be driven to consume what had been described as the sweepings of the tea shops. Although it was desirable to relieve the poor of taxation on tea as soon as possible, that could not be done this year.

(Continued on next column.)

REDUCING INDIAN ARMY. IMPORTANT SPEECH BY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

In the Calcutta Legislative Assembly the Commander-in-Chief made an important statement regarding reductions in the strength of the Army, recommended by the Incheape Committee, and said that His Majesty's Government, after reviewing the recommendations of the Indian Government, had agreed to the following measures:—(1) A reduction of strength in each of forty-five battalions of British infantry by 100 men; (2) A reduction of one battery of Royal Horse Artillery and Ammunition Column; (3) A reduction of the Royal Field Artillery establishment of men and horses on a scale sufficient to secure a financial saving equivalent to that obtainable by the abolition of one Royal Field Artillery Brigade; (4) A reduction of one Cavalry Brigade headquarters and one full field troop of Sappers and Miners; (5) A reduction of 61 men in each active Infantry and Pioneer Battalion of the Indian Army, other than the Gurkhas and Hazaras, coupled with the addition of 77 Class One Reservists per battalion; and (6) The withdrawal from India of two British Cavalry Regiments.

The withdrawal of a third Cavalry Regiment, as recommended by the Incheape Committee and the Indian Government, is still under discussion.

The Commander-in-Chief stated that the annual saving involved by the reduction of combatant troops amounts to more than two and a half crores.

The amendment was rejected by 232 to 100—Government majority, 72.

An amendment moved by Mr. Anderson to reduce the tea duty from 8d. to 4d. was rejected by 231 votes to 165. Clause 1 was then adopted by 219 votes to 150.



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4841—Barney Gangle...	...do.
Nothing But...	...do.
4843—Souvenir...	...Vivian Solo.
Humoresque...	...do.
4843—La La...	...Saxophone Solo.
Gladioli...	...do.
4844—America...	...Male Quartet.
The Star Spangled Banner...	...do.
4853—The Red, White and Blue...	...Contralto.
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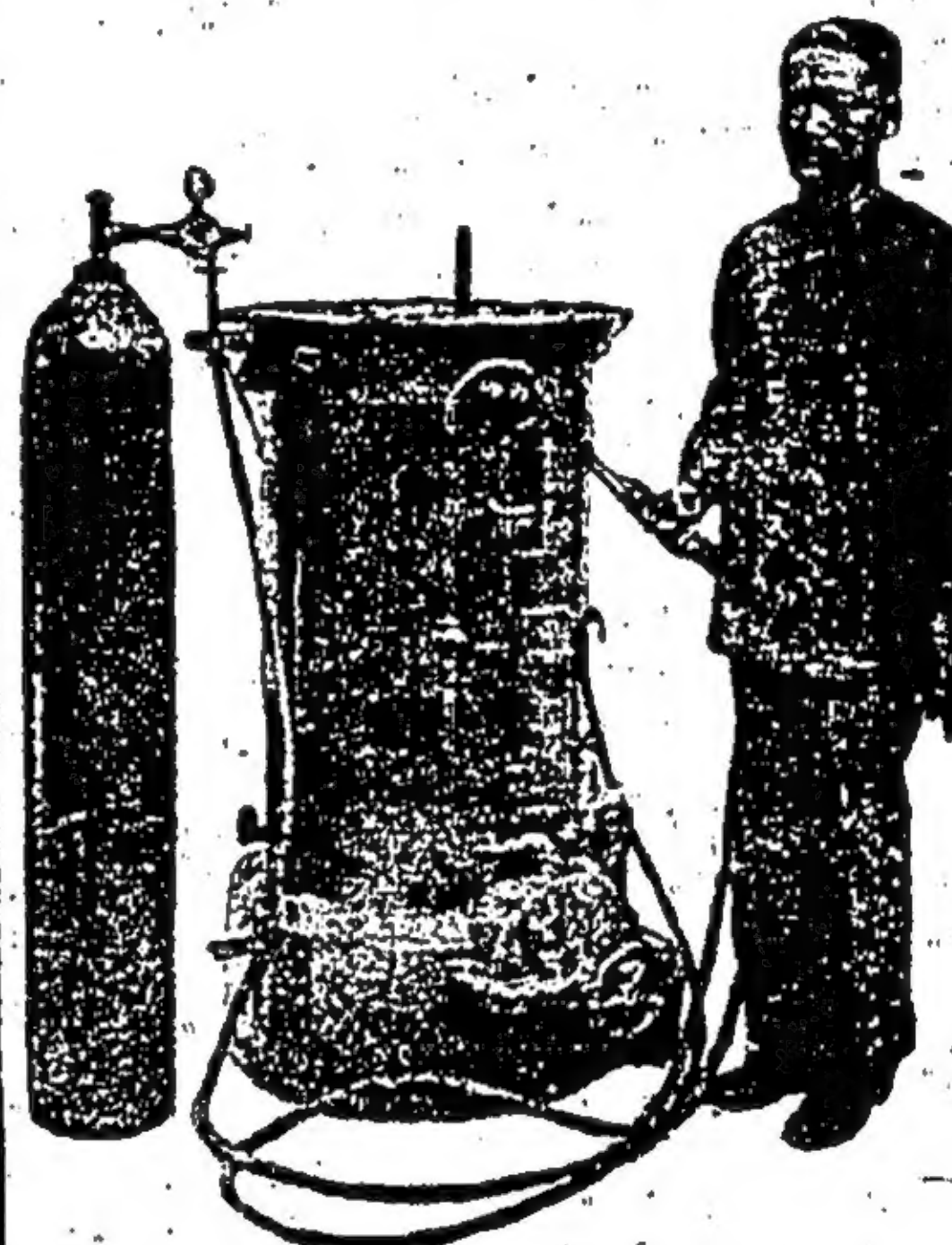
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DR. SUN YAT SEN AND MARSHAL TSAO KUN.

(ASIATIC NEWS AGENCY)

PEKING, July 22nd.

Through the medium of Mr. Sun Hung Yi, former Home Minister, Marshal Tsao Kun has received an answer from Dr. Sun Yat Sen concerning the proposed political co-operation between the Chihli faction and the Kuomintang forces for the final settlement of Chinese political disputes. The telegram was short but precise and to the point. It runs:

"Since the publication of my declaration about the disbandment of the Chinese troops and their conversion into labour corps for the construction of national railroads, canals and other great works in the country, I have not received any official or authoritative statement of the views of the leaders of the Chihli party. Now I am glad to learn that Marshal Tsao Kun, in his capacity as chief leader of the Chihli party, has announced his intention to agree with my proposals whose enforcement will bring forth blessings to the Chinese nation. But previous to the opening of formal negotiations, Marshal Tsao Kun should demonstrate his sincerity by deeds, and not words, by ordering the immediate cessation of hostilities in Szechuan, Fukien and Kwangtung and allow the natives of those provinces to settle their own affairs."

The leaders of the Chihli faction say that this suggestion from Dr. Sun will be accepted by Paoing, so that it is hoped that the proposal for the convocation of a special conference of all political, commercial and army leaders will be carried out in the not distant future. But advice from Loyang indicates that General Wu Pei Fu still doubts the success of such a conference, judging by the results of past parleys in Shanghai, but as he always bows to the decision of his superior at Paoing, his opposition can be overcome by Tsao Kun's advice. Tsao is considered to be a bright development in the Chinese situation, though under the existing chaotic conditions the prospect of the actual convocation, not to say ultimate success, of such a special administrative conference is doubted in a well-informed circle.

MARSHAL TSAO KUN'S REPLY.

In order to show his sincerity regarding the cessation of hostilities, the following reply has been returned to Dr. Sun Yat Sen's telegram:

"I am exceedingly glad to receive the telegram of Dr. Sun regarding the peaceful reunification of the whole country. Perfect frankness and sincerity are necessary in the discussion and solution of national problems. This is certainly the best medicine for the salvation of China and I (Tsao Kun) will be pleased to receive concrete plans, in any shape or form, for the cessation of hostilities in Szechuan, Fukien and Kwangtung and the final solution of all political questions."

Mr. Sun Hung Yi (Dr. Sun Yat Sen's agent) says that he has retransmitted this telegram to Canton and he hopes that both parties will put the national interests before their private ones and then proceed to discuss national problems with perfect sincerity. Mr. Sun declares that this is an advance in the right direction towards the solving of Chinese problems.

TSAO KUN'S REPUDIATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AMBITIONS.

PEKING, July 22nd.
On the basis of Marshal Tsao Kun's circular telegram urging the early drafting and completion of the permanent constitution for the Republic, the leaders of the various political parties held a special conference in the hall of the Lower House this afternoon. After discussion, the leaders despatched telegrams to Tientsin and Shanghai urging Senators and Representatives to return to the capital without delay for the early completion of the Chinese constitution and nothing else. The leaders emphasized the point that although Marshal Tsao Kun did not clearly mention the cessation of the rumored presidential-election campaign which has been carried on by lesser leaders and followers of the Chihli faction; nevertheless, all activities are now suspended by Tientsin and that the responsibility rests with the separatists if they still decline to return to Peking to perform their legislative duties after Tsao Kun's official repudiation of his presidential ambitions. Furthermore, following the footsteps of his nominal chief, the Loyang leader has circulated a telegram strongly urging all legislators to attend to their own legislative duties to the nation and not to act as fools in the hands of ambitious politicians. An improvement in the situation is expected amongst Chihli leaders.

Marshal Tsao Kun, in his circular telegram, urging legislators to complete the drafting of the Constitution said: "It is easy to draw up a constitution on foreign models, but what is needed is a constitution which will have regard to conditions in China, so that foreign models must not be too closely followed. When a constitution is acceptable and workable in China, has been promulgated, I will be the first to make every effort to get it obeyed."

MARSHAL TSUO CHI JUI'S ACTIVITIES.

PEKING, July 22nd.
According to latest advices from Tientsin and Shanghai, the activities of the defunct Anfu faction in its destructive designs against the Chihli leaders are attracting a great deal of attention. Since his flight to Tientsin last year on account of the Chihli-Fongtien civil war, Marshal Tsu Chi Jui (ex-Premier) has been leading a quiet life in the Japanese Consulate there. But now, with the co-operation of Li Shih Hao, former Minister of Finance, the Marshal is reported to be actively engaged in the destruction of the Peking administration and he has (Continued at foot of next column.)

HARBOUR CONSERVANCY AT CANTON.

AN URGENT NEED.

In his annual report on the foreign trade of Canton in 1922, Mr. A. H. Harris, the former Commissioner of Customs, makes the following reference to the harbour:

"I wish to draw serious attention to the remarks in the Harbour Master's report relative to the obstruction in the upper harbour caused by the continued presence of the fish market rafts and butts off Wongsan. Repeated representations by the two railway companies and by this office have proved unavailing, and the double turnover in government this year prevented issue of promised orders for removal to a new site at Puntong 1.1-3 miles higher up. In 1904 there were no signs of the Wongsan mudbank; four years later shoaling had commenced, and in 1921 a mudbank existed which dried 6 feet above Customs low-water zero. A shoaling of at least 5 feet has occurred in this locality. Off Shamen in 1910 a survey revealed a small bank drying 6 inches above low-water mark; at the present time this spot dries 3 feet, and in addition, the bank has extended from the boat-house some 2,000 feet to below the Consular Jetty and is undoubtedly growing. The much-needed bunding of the upper harbour and the creation of wharves are impracticable, and the river channel has narrowed from 750 to 600 feet. Decreased width means a measure of increased depth, but of what use is depth alone if there is no width in which to berth and swing the shipping with which the trade and prosperity of the port are built up? The plans that accompany this report explain the position better than a written description can do. International Harbour Regulations, constitute the Harbour Master the authority for matters concerning the navigation, buoying, etc., of the harbour. But it is evident that without the moral and material support of the constituted rulers of the port the task is one that cannot be satisfactorily discharged. Alike in the interests of the trading requirements of this great port and of the foreign and Chinese property involved, this problem of harbour conservancy should be tackled, and that at once. An efficient river police service is much needed, not only to maintain order on the waterways and to see that harbour rules are observed, but to regulate night traffic. Fire-crackers are let off at all times of the night, pleasure motor-launches and hawkers' provision wharves never cease coming and going, and the flower-boats, formerly chiefly stationed below the city, have for several years past berthed themselves just above Shamen. These know no early closing and, together with the sampans anchored off Shamen, constitute a nuisance; it is almost impossible to walk on the Bund of an evening without being accosted from the water by the women who ferry by day and prosecute another trade by night."

I am glad to call attention to Major Olivecrona's second memorandum on the work of the Kwangtung Conservancy Board on the East and North River districts: funds to keep it excellent and experienced staff "in-being" are urgently required. I must not omit to refer to projects for reclamation and bunding in the Front Reach, the bridging of the river to Honan, the building of a railway towards Whampoa, and the deepening of the approaches to that port. All these are projects deserving of realisation, the problem of communications for this fertile delta, with its teeming millions, being thereby assisted and trade benefited. Both the Pearl River up to Wongsan—the terminus of the railway from Hankow—and the approach to Whampoa need deepening to admit vessels of some 16 to 18 feet or possibly 20 feet draught at all times. Whampoa, or an adjacent site, never, in my opinion, become an ocean steamer deep-water terminus; although plans to that end may be projected, engineers and contractors alone will derive profit; it cannot be a remunerative enterprise. Improvement, however, with the less ambitious object is most desirable.

Actually appointed General Li Lich Chun, former Tutor of Kiangsi and General Pei Wen Wei, former Tutor of Anhui, to the posts of commanders-in-chief of the Kiangsi and the Anhui armies, in the hope of disturbing the peace of the Yangtze Valley, while its Shanghai interests are in the hands of Tsang Yu Chun, former Minister of Communications.

It is reliably reported that the Tuan Chi Jui or Anfu faction declines to co-operate with the Li Yuan Hung party, because Tuan openly declares that he has no political faith in the ex-President; but the Anfuites have close connections with General Chang Tso Lin in Mukden, General Lu Yung Hsiang in Hangchow, and Dr. Sun Yat Sen in Canton. Owing to his former influential and powerful position as one of the three principal leaders of the old Peiyang Military Party immediately under late President-Emperor Yuan Shih Kai, the activities of the ex-Premier Minister Tsao are naturally compelling attention among the Chihli leaders. The men who are considered to be second and third rivals, Chang Tso Lin and Lu Yung Hsiang, are very reticent at the moment and the Chihli leaders believe that they will not make any military move against them until the Anfu forces have secured visible success. With the exception of the above-mentioned anti-Chihli forces, both Tsao Kun and Wu Pei Fu do not seem to pay any attention to the actions and utterances of Dr. Sun Yat Sen or any of the parliamentary separatists and obstructions. Notwithstanding their loud clamourings and agitations as well as their anti-Peking letters and declarations for the consumption of the foreign Legations, Tsao Kun and Wu Pei Fu have decided to ignore them. It is firmly believed that owing to political and financial reasons, there is not the slightest hope for the convocation of a new Parliament in Shanghai.

MESSRS. DENT & CO. OF SHANGHAI.

OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S STATEMENT OF COMPANY'S AFFAIRS.

THE FIRM'S LOSSES.

The first meeting of creditors of Dent & Co. (in liquidation) was held by the Official Receiver, Mr. D. R. Cooke, at 5, Yuenningyuen Road, Shanghai, on July 27th, in accordance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Act of 1914.

Mr. A. McLure, special manager of the Official Receiver, and Mr. J. A. Turner attended, as well as numerous creditors. The Official Receiver said that the company originally consisted of A. Arnaud-Coste and R. V. Dent. The partnership terminated on the February 23rd, 1922, and since that date the business had been carried on by Dent & Co. by R. V. Dent, with branches at Harbin, Chetoo and London. On July 16th, 1923, a declaration was made at H.M. Supreme Court by Robert Vyvyan Dent of his inability to pay his debts, and on the same date a petition was filed by him, for a receiving order to be made in respect of his estate. The receiving order was duly made by the Court and the Official Receiver was constituted receiver of the debtor's property. In pursuance of the powers conferred upon the Official Receiver by Section 10 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, he had appointed on July 17th, Mr. Alexander McLure, of Messrs. Seth, Mancel & McLure, chartered accountants, Shanghai, to act as special manager until the appointment of a trustee. Mr. McLure had acted in that capacity up to the present. It was almost impossible at this stage to present to the creditors an accurate statement of affairs. Such a statement must include assets and liabilities at Home and abroad, and all the necessary information not yet available. The following, however, which he had extracted from the statement of affairs submitted to him by Mr. Dent, were approximate figures of the assets and liabilities in China at the date of the receiving order:

THE DEFICIENCIES.

The books show that down to the end of 1920 the business was being run at a profit.

In 1921 when the trade depression occurred a loss was made of Tls. 449,927.44 and for the half year to June 31st, 1922, a further loss was sustained of Tls. 245,402.81. The largest part of this loss was incurred in piece goods.

For the half year to December 31st, 1922, the loss was only Tls. 6,737.38, and the estimated loss from that date to the present is Tls. 90,021.08. During these latter periods the firm had to bear very heavy interest charges owing to the large amount owed by it.

After the original capital at December 31st, 1920, is deducted, the net deficiency is estimated at Tls. 678,491.35 as follows:

General liabilities	973,989.81
Deduct securities held by various creditors	298,001.13
Net liabilities	706,988.78
Other assets	36,252.11
Less preferential claims	7,744.68
	28,507.43
	678,491.35

Continuing, the Official Receiver said that the firm claimed that through the Chinese dealers defaulting their actual loss was Tls. 904,025.02, which much more than accounted for the deficiency.

The Act provided for the meeting being held for the purpose of considering whether a proposal for composition or scheme of arrangement should be accepted, or whether it was expedient that the debtor should be adjudged bankrupt, and generally as to the mode of dealing with the debtor's property. The Official Receiver said he was in a position to say that no scheme or proposal of that nature would be placed before them. It would be for them, however, to consider whether the debtor be adjudged bankrupt.

This being the first meeting of creditors they would have to consider whether a trustee was to be appointed and elected by them. He felt that this should be done. They would also have to consider whether a committee of inspection should be appointed. The convenient number for a committee was generally three, and those who represented the largest interests were generally the persons most qualified to serve on such a committee. It would also be for the creditors to fix the remuneration of the trustee, if appointed, or if they so preferred they might leave this question to the committee of inspection.

BANKRUPTCY DECISION.

After a lengthy discussion, on the motion of Mr. S. R. Brown, seconded by Mr. E. B. Winter, it was decided that the debtor be adjudged bankrupt.

On the motion of Mr. E. B. Winter, seconded by Mr. S. R. Brown, Mr. A. McLure was appointed trustee in the bankruptcy.

Mr. E. B. Winter proposed that the following be appointed to act as a committee of inspection:—Mr. Winter, Mr. D. Ritchie, and Mr. L. G. Westcott.

The public examination of the debtor was fixed for August 7th next.

THE VALUE OF GOOD SIGHT

cannot be over-estimated. Sight stands for everything that is valuable or enjoyable in life. You cannot tell if your eyes are right; you may see well yet have defective eyes. If you wish to have your eyes tested, the Refracting Room of The Hongkong Optical Co., successors to Clark & Co., Refracting and Manufacturing Opticians—the most complete optical establishment in South China—is at your service. They have the equipment to test your eyes accurately. Testing the sight and fitting glasses is their specialty.—ADVT.

SPORT

LAWN TENNIS.

THE HONG DOUBLES FINAL.

H.M.S. "TAMAR" WINS AFTER A HARD TUGGLE.

The final of the Hong Doubles, organised by the Hongkong Cricket Club, was played off yesterday afternoon in fine weather before a fair number of spectators. The finalists were: Commander H. E. Grace and Lieut. Commander R. E. Worthington, representing the H.M.S. "Tamar" and F. A. Redmond and L. Forster, representing the Hongkong University. The match went to the full five sets, each game being very keenly contested, and the result was in doubt right up to the last game. The Naval men won by the very close score of 20 games to 21.

On the rim of the play it was very difficult to pick out the superior, for, so evenly were they matched. If anything the Naval representatives showed, perhaps, a little better combination than the University men, who at times showed a very slight tendency towards confusion as to who should take the ball. Individually, Redmond was the outstanding player. His service was very hot, and in the first three sets he succeeded in getting his first service over the net and into the Court with terrific force. Towards the end of the match he tired and his services were not quite so fast, but they were still good. He was also very sure from the base line and close up to the net where he got in several very fine kills. His partner—Forster—came in for a very heavy share of the work. He worked hard and what he lacked in using of service he made up in Court work.

Of the Naval men the Commodore played very bright tennis, and saved many points by his tenacity to get everything back. He was frequently applauded for his success in getting back many of Redmond's swift drives and smash shots. His driving from the base line was very safe, whilst his lobbing was dangerous and it mainly fell to Redmond's lot to try and counteract this. Lt. Com. Worthington was not up to his usual form and much of that stylish play, for which he is noted, was missing. Towards the end of the match he seemed to recover some of this old form and got in some very nice returns across the Court to the outside line. He was not so sure with his placing yesterday and he frequently found the net.

At the conclusion of the match the winners were heartily applauded on their success. The match was umpired by Mr. Hugh Nisbet.

The scores were: 6-3, 4-6, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3.

THE CANTON RAILWAYS.

OBSERVATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS.

Mr. A. H. Harris, formerly Commissioner of Customs at Canton, in his annual report for last year makes the following reference to the railways:

Railways have suffered greatly from military movements and no improvements have been effected. The number of passengers carried by the Yueh-Han Railway for the year was 3,336,008 and the tonnage of goods 351,450 tons. The fare and freight were \$85,000 and \$1,840,000 respectively. No extension of track has taken place, but two locomotives of "Mogul" type at Gold \$40,400 each were bought. The number of passengers on the Canton-Samshui Railway for the year was 4,788,080, and fares totalled \$1,200,000; freight earnings are reported as \$12,000. Female labour fell into disrepute alike on the lines as in the various city establishments. "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," and the following notes upon the Canton-Kowloon Railway, courteously supplied by the management, will be read with interest. "The improvement in working results which was effected in 1921 has been considerably increased. The whole of the loan interest due in the first half-year and a large proportion of loan interest due in the second half-year was met from revenues. The balance of loan interest and amortisation instalment for the year were discharged by the Ministry of Communications. In January and February the railway benefited considerably in both passenger and goods service, owing to the dislocation of river traffic caused by the seamen's strike. These advantages were, however, greatly counterbalanced by the effect on the railway of the political disturbances of June and July. Slight damage was caused by the bombardment of the city in June to the station at Taishatou and to rolling stock; serious damage was done to bridges by demolitions in July; traffic had to be suspended for five days in that month. All damage to bridges has been made good. Rainfall was considerably above normal, and the flood in the East River reached the highest level since 1919; damage to the railway was, however, insignificant, and there was no interruption to traffic from this cause. Total earnings from all sources during the year were \$1,603,000, about \$250,000 in excess of 1921. Net revenue for the year, after payment of working expenses, about \$600,000; number of through passengers carried, up from British section to Chinese section, 425,913; number of through passengers carried 'down' from Chinese section to British section, 417,839; total through passengers, 843,752; number of local passengers carried 'both' ways on Chinese section, 1,253,564; total passengers carried, 2,127,306, an increase over 1921 of about 84,000; passengers' goods carried, 137,542 metric tons, an increase of about 41,000 over 1921; goods earnings, \$109,620, an increase of about \$30,000 over 1921." Tribute must be accorded to the railway staff, and in particular to the able engineer-in-chief, Mr. Boothby, and the traffic manager, Mr. C. T. Liu, for the high level of efficiency maintained throughout the year under trying and even dangerous conditions. Further, it needs no inside knowledge to be aware that stock of all kinds is badly worn and that funds needed for replacement are withheld, but for able nursing, collapse must have taken place. What will the New Year bring?

THE LAUNCH INQUIRY. CONFLICTING EVIDENCE.

EXPERTS VIEWS AS TO THE STABILITY OF THE LAUNCH.

Conflicting evidence was offered yesterday afternoon at the resumed sitting of the Commission inquiring into the circumstances surrounding the capsizing of the Cheung Chau ferry launch, *Yee Din Fat*. The question was raised as to whether the launch carried any ballast. According to Mr. Swan, a draughtsman, who examined the launch after she was raised from the harbour, there was no ballast on board. The coxswain, recalled, related his statement of the previous afternoon that she did carry ballast. He had seen it himself and he suggested that the ballast had been taken out of the launch after she had been raised.

The first witness called was the Assistant Government Marine Surveyor, Mr. P. J. Taylor. He said that the launch came under him for survey on June 5th last. It did not strike him then that the launch was "tender," nor that she was too narrow in the beam.

Asked under what circumstances the launch was sent on that occasion to Bailey's Yard to be tested, the witness said that certain alterations had been made to the vessel which had not been approved. The bridge had been lengthened without permission. After the launch had been tested he considered her to be a good and proper launch for ferry service to the islands outside the local harbour ferry services. He could not say whether the launch had any ballast when he surveyed her. She was then equipped with one boat and 72 life-belts or buoys.

In reply to Mr. Chairman, the witness said that all launches going through the survey were measured for passengers and that it was not usual to measure them for cargo. If they carried cargo they would have to carry fewer passengers in proportion. This was done in accordance with the Ordinance. They allowed one passenger for every ten superficial feet throughout.

The Chairman, speaking generally of the ferry launches in Hongkong, do you withhold many certificates on the ground of instability?—I would not say very often. To my knowledge there have been four or five withheld during the last five months.

Replying to Mr. Davison, witness said that if any alterations were made to the vessel, which affected its stability a certificate would not be granted.

Mr. George Swan, a draughtsman in Messrs. W. S. Bailey's Shipbuilding Yard, said that after testing the launch he gave a certificate of testing to the Government Marine Surveyor on June 9th.

The witness then described the technicalities of testing the stability of the launch in different kinds of weather with varying quantities of ballast and numbers of people on board. He allowed for 151 passengers by measurement.

The Chairman: Did you consider this launch was a safe and proper launch to carry passengers according to the measurements?—Yes, she was very good.

Had she extra stability—that is to say more than you find in harbour launches?—Yes, that is so.

Witness said that she recovered quickly from a roll, and went on to describe in technical terms what would be her capsizing moment.

Mr. James: Assuming that her 75 passengers on one side of the vessel represented 50 piculs, including bunkers and one ton of fresh water, what would the effect be?—

The witness consulted his tables of figures and replied that she would have a "righting moment" at "12 feet tons," which would be all right.

Supposing 50 people came on board on the same side—that would be 50 piculs more—what would be the effect?—She would not have a chance.

She would become unstable—she would be over her righting moment?—Yes. She would not stand up to it at 100 piculs?—No.

Witness went on to say that he looked for ballast on the boat but could not see any.

Mr. James: How much ballast would she want, approximately?—I don't think she would need ballast at all. The launch would be quite steady without.

So that what upset the boat was the people coming on board?—It was the outside people that did it.

What would be the effect of putting in 50 tons of ballast?—

Witness gave a technical answer that 50 tons of ballast "would bring her up to 2 feet 4 inches."

The Chairman: Would that additional ballast have any effect on her speed?—Ballast of five or six tons would have little effect on her speed.

The Chairman asked if her quick recoveries from rolling would make her slightly uncomfortable?—

Witness said that it would.

As launches go, she was extra safe?—Yes.

So that she was uncomfortable but safe?—Yes.

The Chairman pointed out that the Cheung Chau residents had taken a dislike to the launch. Probably this was because she was extremely uncomfortable?—

The Witness: Well, that is a reason. This concluded Mr. Swan's evidence.

Evidence was next given by Leung Shing, the contractor who raised the sunken launch. When he went down to the sunken launch he found her on her side with bridge touching the bottom. The launch was not touching the bottom but her mast was broken. He did not take anything out of the launch when he raised her.

The coxswain, recalled, said he remembered when the launch was surveyed in June. She was not then equipped with a boat; neither had she any davits. The ballast was still on the launch when she was taken to the yard for testing.

The Chairman: Is it in the launch now, then?—Yes, it was, but everything was taken out after she was raised—even the engine and the boiler.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

EXCITING INCIDENT NEAR THE K.C.C.

DETECTIVE EMPTIES HIS REVOLVER AT AN AMERICAN.
ANOTHER ALLEGED SMUGGLING INCIDENT.

There was much excitement in the neighbourhood of the Kowloon Cricket Club on Tuesday night at about 9.30 o'clock when shots were heard in the direction of Austin Road. The members in the Club and the Europeans in the neighbouring houses rushed towards the scene of the shooting. On arrival it was found that a Chinese detective was in pursuit of an American quarter-master belonging to the s.s. *President McKinley*.

Acting on information that an American was likely to pass that way on an alleged smuggling mission, a Chinese detective had been specially posted in Austin Road. At about the hour stated the man made his appearance. He was riding in a ricksha. The detective challenged him. The American, it is stated, stopped the ricksha, jumped out and ran away, closely pursued by the detective, shouting to him to stop. The fugitive took no notice and the detective pulled out his revolver and emptied the chamber at the retreating figure, six shots being fired in all. With the aid of a European the wanted man was caught. It is stated that no arms or ammunition were found in his possession, but in the road, not far away from the scene of the arrest, a revolver and some ammunition were discovered. The American quarter-master was taken to the Water Police Station. He is to be brought before the Magistrate this morning.

STREET FOOTBALLERS PROSECUTED.

SEVERAL COMPLAINTS FROM THE VICINITY OF STATUE SQUARE.

Three Chinese school boys and three Hongkong Hotel boys were prosecuted by Sgt. Elston before Mr. Melbourne for playing football on Tuesday afternoon at the junction of Wardley Street and Queen's Road.

The boys entered different pleas. Some of them said they were playing; two of them denied the accusation, and another said he did play, but realising that he was doing wrong, he stopped playing. Another said he was playing on the Murray Parade Ground when he was invited to join in the game. He did not accept the invitation as he realised it was against the law.

Sgt. Elston told his Worship that he had had three complaints about the nuisance. One was from a shop keeper in Beaumont Avenue who had had his window smashed by the youngsters. A driver of a motor-car had also complained that his car had been hit by a ball; whilst a pedestrian said he had been annoyed. The Captain Superintendent of Police had suggested that three of the defendants be lightly fined, whilst the three hotel boys, who had spent the night in the side room at Central Station, should be discharged with a caution.

The Magistrate told the defendants the dangers they were running of being run over and pointed out that they had been smashing windows. Three of them were fined 50 cents each and the other three were let off with a caution.

A THIEF IN NATHAN HOUSE.

EUROPEAN'S UNPLEASANT SURPRISE.

A house-boy on going into a room to call Mr. J. Murphy, a resident at Nathan House, on Tuesday morning, discovered a thief in the room. He was holding a pair of Mr. Murphy's shoes in his hand. The boy promptly aroused Mr. Murphy, who was asleep at the time. He jumped out of bed and seized the thief. Police whistles were blown and the man was taken in charge by a Chinese constable. Before being marched off to the Station, the thief took out of his pocket a five dollar note and 30 cents, which he had taken from the dressing table.

This was the outline of a case given by Sub-Inspector Spear before Mr. J. R. Wood yesterday morning.

Asked by the Magistrate if he had anything to say, the defendant shook his head, but did not utter a word.

He was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

AN ORWEGIAN DESTITUTE.

Magnus Ambjornsen, a Norwegian seaman, was brought before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Magistracy, yesterday, charged with being a destitute. He told the Magistrate that his last employment was on an American ship.

The Magistrate: Did you desert?—No, I missed the ship.

Have you got any money?—I have 30 cents.

Have you any employment?—No, I have no work.

Sub-Inspector Cotton said that he had received complaints from Europeans at the hotels that the man was frequenting the vicinity, begging people for alms. He found the defendant outside one of the hotels and not receiving a satisfactory reply to his question he took him in charge.

Ambjornsen was committed to the House of Detention.

Are you perfectly certain the ballast was in the boat? Have you seen it yourself?—Yes, I am sure I have seen it.

This concluded the evidence to be taken by the Commission which then adjourned.

The finding is to be published in due course.

PIRATES?

POLICE OFFICER'S SENSATIONAL FIND.

APPARENT PLOT TO PIRATE CHINA MERCHANTS' STEAMER FRUSTRATED.

The police, yesterday afternoon, through the diligence of one of their officers nipped in the bud what appears to have been a well-laid plan to pirate a large Hongkong steamer. The vessel was the s.s. *Kuang Tak*, belonging to the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company. She had just embarked some two to three hundred passengers and a good cargo of merchandise, and was on the point of departure, when Sgt. Carey of the Water Police, boarded the vessel at West Point from a police launch and instituted a search of the passengers. His presence was sufficient to cause a panic and a number of people on board made desperate efforts to make the shore. Sgt. Carey succeeded to some extent in stopping the rush with the aid of the police launch crew and the crew of the steamer. He then picked out a man who appeared to be acting in a suspicious manner and, taking him into a cabin, searched him. The suspect was armed with three fully loaded revolvers.

His suspicions of a plot to pirate the ship were by now fully confirmed. He communicated with the Water Police Station and asked for a party of police to be sent along the vessel at once, and in the mean time he kept a very close watch on the passengers. On the arrival of the police party it was decided to take the vessel out into Kowloon Bay, where there would be no fear of any of the people on board escaping, and where the ship could be searched without interruption. The search took a considerable time, but it was not a fruitless, for in different parts of the vessel a number of revolvers and quantities of ammunition were discovered. These, along with a number of suspects, were taken to the Water Police Station.

The sensational incident will probably have its sequel at the Magistracy, this morning, when some of the people taken to the Station will be charged.

Sgt. Carey is to be congratulated on his prompt action, for, apparently he frustrated a scheme to pirate the ship.

MURDER CHARGE WITHDRAWN.

WOULD BE SUICIDE RELEASED FROM CUSTODY.

Tse Chung Lin, the man who jumped into the harbour with his wife during the typhoon last Friday, and who was rescued after a gallant struggle with the elements by Chief Preventive Officer Clark, has been released from police custody.

On the day following the attempt the man was charged with murder at the Magistracy, owing to the fact that his wife had died as a result of the immersion. A formal remand was granted in the case. On the advice of the Attorney General the Captain Superintendent of Police withdrew the charge of murder and the man was released from custody on Tuesday. The reason for the release is that the Attorney General could see no possibility of a conviction being obtained owing to the statement made by the man. This statement gave a brief history of the tragedy which surrounded the unhappy couple's lives. They had been married for some 20 years and recently the deceased woman had been afflicted with that terrible malady—consumption—from which there was apparently no hope of recovery. As a final effort to combat the disease the man brought his wife to Hongkong, and on the morning of the typhoon paid a visit to a local physician who confirmed his fears that there was no hope for his wife. They straightway went to the Canton Wharf and there threw themselves into the turbulent sea.

When the Captain Superintendent's decision was announced to the man he expressed surprise as he had solaced himself with the thought that it was much better to die, as he had nothing to live for. The released man was taken away by his daughter, a young woman about 20 years, and it is understood that they have since returned to Canton, where the father holds a position as school teacher.

THE DEFENCE OF WAICHOW.

Waichow—General Chen Chiung Ming's stronghold—is still resisting all attempts to capture it. Yesterday's *Canton Daily News* contains the following references to the situation there:—

According to refugees who escaped from Waichow the city is faced with the grave danger of starvation. The shortage of food supplies is causing much concern among the enemy troops that are under siege, and mutiny is expected.

The firing of the 15-centimeter gun has caused considerable damage in the city, and the refugees are of the opinion that should the firing continue the city is likely to be captured with little trouble.

Another report given out by the refugees is that the enemy troops have been forcing the residents to work on the construction of a new wall around that part of the city, that is liable to be attacked by the Constitutional forces. A great portion of the old city wall was destroyed by the 15-centimeter gun, and the enemy fears that subsequent firing will render the old wall useless to withstand the attack of the Constitutionalists. On account of bad weather, work on the construction of the new wall is greatly handicapped, and very little work has been done. The employment of peaceful residents in constructing the new wall, has caused much indignation among the people in the city, who are praying for the early capture of Waichow by the Constitutional forces.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

MEMBERS AND INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

THE LANGUAGE DISPUTE.

The Board of Education met at the offices of the Sanitary Board, Post Office Building, yesterday afternoon. The chair was taken by the Director of Education (Hon. Mr. E. Irving).

The Chairman reminded the members that he had been instructed by them to make further enquiries from the Headmistress of the *Bellevue Girls' School* on the subject of the respective merits of the Portuguese and French languages for certain of her pupils. Unfortunately the too Board left out of consideration the fact that the school holidays began the day after their meeting. Consequently he was afraid he would be unable to see the Headmistress for at least another six weeks, and he suggested that the question be left in abeyance till then. There was no particular hurry in any case, because the subject could not be included in the school curriculum till the new school year. The Chairman proceeded to move that discussion on this subject be adjourned till their October meeting.

Mr. E. Ralphs seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

PLANS AND ALTERATIONS.

The next business on the agenda was the appointment of a sub-committee to inspect new school plans.

Mr. B. Wylie suggested that before they deal with the matter it would be advisable to alter the words "new school plans" to "plans of new schools and plans of important extensions and alterations to schools."

The Chairman said that some time ago this question was referred to the Government and the Government agreed to show the Board any plans of this description they wished to see. There could be no objection to altering the phrasing as Mr. Wylie asked.

This was agreed to, and the Board proceeded to appoint a committee. Messrs. Wylie, Ralphs, and Runjahn were the selected members.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

With reference to the inspection of schools by members, Mr. Ralphs remarked that they considered the matter at their April meeting, and it had been decided that members should visit the schools for the purpose of inspection. No more than two members at a time were to visit the schools, and they would be selected by the Inspector, and the latter would accompany them during the visit. It was to be the Inspector's duty to choose members to visit the schools that they would be most interested in. Since they had decided this it had been found necessary to visit only a certain class of school. These schools had been visited and on nearly every occasion he had invited one member of the Board, who was specially interested in the school to be visited, to accompany him. The Autumn term was, for various reasons, the best and most suitable term in which to make the visits. He had found the comments and suggestions made by the members very useful to him in the past, and as there were some thirty schools he proposed to visit during the next term, and as he wished to ask two members to accompany him each time, he ventured to predict that all members would be frequently called upon to act. He did not think it desirable that any school should be visited by members more than once a term, and in some cases, only once a year.

Mr. SILVA NETTO expressed agreement. The Chairman said he did not think there was any actual proposal before the Board. The matter had been thrashed out at the April meeting, and they were merely repeating their views. They had not altered their rules in any way. The matter then dropped.

INDIAN SCHOOLS.

Adverse comment was made on the state of the sanitary arrangements at the Ellis Kadoorie School for Indians. The Chairman informed the Board that he was corresponding with the Government on the subject, and he hoped that something would finally be done. He added that the question was one of sewerage. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Those present were the Director of Education (Chairman), the Inspector of English Schools (Mr. E. Ralphs), the Inspector of Vernacular Schools (Mr. B. A. D. Forrest), the Rev. T. W. Pearce, the Rev. F. Valtorta, Mr. B. Wylie, Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin, Mr. S. W. Tso, Mr. U. Runjahn, and the Secretary (Mr. Y. P. Law).

THE PIG AS A GOD.

The following letter recently appeared in *The Times*:—

Sir—Many centuries ago the Chinese deified the pig for its services as a killer of snakes, and a special star was assigned to it in the firmament. Eulogies and poems have been written honouring this animal, which forms a staple of food in China, second only to rice. Herewith a short poem written by Mei Yao-ch'en, a well-known poet and critic of the eleventh century A.D.:—

SONG ABOUT A PIG.

Su Yuan kept an ordinary pig. Which daily greeted him with friendly looks.

Delighted he regarded it as a white unicorn (kylin). Grieving only that it did not grow fat. In blustering gales or deluging rain. The pig would rush at people with a loud grunt. But did Su Yuan care? His affection was proof against fear.

LANE CRAWFORD'S SUMMER SALE

IN THE

WOMEN'S and MEN'S DEPARTMENTS.

EVERYTHING IN THESE TWO DEPARTMENTS ARE BEING OFFERED AT COLOSSAL REDUCTIONS.

IN SOME INSTANCES GOODS ARE BEING OFFERED AT A PRICE FAR BELOW COST.

THIS IS NOT A SALE TO CLEAR ODD OR DAMAGED GOODS, BUT TO MAKE ROOM FOR OUR WINTER STOCKS.

LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

COTY'S

Parisian Perfume Essences.

Emeraude, Origan,
Ambre-Antique,
Jasmin & Lilas, etc.

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STEEL GUITARS.
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CASES.
TUTORS.
THIMBLES, NUTS, Etc.

ANDERSON'S

2, QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

TEL. C. 1333.

Wm. Powell Ltd.
TELEPHONE C. 846.

SUMMER SALE

NOW PROCEEDING.

Bargains in All Sections of the Store

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

BANK HOLIDAY

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1913, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on MONDAY, the 6th instant, Hongkong, 1st Aug., 1923. [1124]

OLD DENSTONIAN'S.

AS it is proposed to hold an O. D. DINNER shortly. Will any Old Denstonians in Hongkong or Canton kindly communicate with the undersigned? L. M. WHYTE, c/o DENSTON & WHITE. [1130]

"GLEN" LINE, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES. FROM UNITED KINGDOM, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

THE Motor Vessel

"GLENSANDA" having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained. Goods not cleared by the 7th August, 1923, at Noon, will be subject to rent. All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined in the presence of consignees by Messrs. Goddard and Douglas, on 6th August, 1923, at 10 a.m. Claims against the Steamer including those for cargo short delivered must be presented on the special form provided, and must also be submitted within 30 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized. No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., Agents. Hongkong, 31st July, 1923. [1125]

VEREENIGDE NEDERLANDSCHER SCHEEPVAART-MAATSCHAPPIJ (United Netherlands Navigation Co.) HOLLAND-OOST AZIE LIJN (Holland-East Asia Line).

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM, HAMBURG & BREMEN.

THE Steamship

"SAPAROE" (2) having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained. Goods not cleared by the 8th Aug., 1923, will be subject to rent. All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 7th Aug., 1923, at 10 a.m., by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas. Claims against the Steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of steamer, otherwise they will not be recognized. No Fire Insurance will be effected by the undersigned in any case whatever. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN, General Agents. Hongkong, 31st July, 1923. [1126]

SS. "PAUL LECAT"

SERVICES CONTRACTUELS DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from MARSEILLE, L. & Co., in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their goods with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing. Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon, To-day, requesting it to be landed here. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the undersigned, Goods remaining unclaimed after the 7th instant, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges. All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 11th July, 1923, or they will not be recognized. All damaged packages will be examined on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at 10 a.m., by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas. No Fire Insurance has been effected. B. RODENFUSER, Acting Agent. Hongkong, 1st August, 1923. [1129]

P. & O. S. N. CO.

STEAMER FOR STRAITS, COLOMBO, AUSTRALIA, BOMBAY, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS & LONDON.

Through Bills of Lading issued for Batavia, Persian Gulf, Continental, American and South African Ports.

THE Steamship "SOUDAN," Captain R. M. Collier, R.N., carrying His Majesty's Mails will be despatched from this Port on or about TUESDAY, 7th AUG. 1923, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports. Bills and Valuables and Tea for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Bombay into the Mail Steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London. Parcels will be received at this Office until Noon, the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required. For further particulars apply to MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO., Agents. Hongkong, 2nd Aug., 1923. [1137]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

OFFICIAL NOTICE

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE A SHIP'S NAME

WE HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that in consequence of uniformity with the combination of Names of the other vessels owned by us under the name of CHIU ON STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED, of No. 203, Wing Lok Street, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, have applied to the Board of Trade under Section 47 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, for permission to change the name of Steam launch "CHINA" of Hongkong, Official No. 162019, Gross Tonnage 20.37, Register Tonnage 12.24, hitherto owned by us, to the name of "CHIU ON" and to have her registered in the New Name at the Port of Hongkong as owned by us. Any objections to the proposed Change of name must be sent to the Registrar of Shipping or Harbour Master at Hongkong within seven days from the appearance of this Advertisement. Dated Hongkong this 1st day of Aug., 1923. LAU SHU TONG, Managing Director. KWOK LAI PAN, Directors. CHIU ON STEAMSHIP CO., LTD. [1135]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

THE Office of the "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" has been removed to 1A, CHATER ROAD (3rd floor), to which Address all Correspondence should be directed. Hongkong, 16th July, 1923.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on TUESDAY, the 7th day of August, 1923, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR of three Lots of CROWN LAND in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal, a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of the Lands, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.		Boundary Measurement.		Contents.		Annual Rental.	
No. of Lot.	Locality.	in feet.	in feet.	in feet.	in feet.	in feet.	in feet.
1.	At the end of the road leading from the Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, to the Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon.	100	100	100	100	100	100
2.	At the end of the road leading from the Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, to the Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon.	100	100	100	100	100	100
3.	At the end of the road leading from the Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, to the Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon.	100	100	100	100	100	100

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF ONE DOLLAR per Share for the Six Months ending 30th June, 1923, will be PAYABLE on WEDNESDAY, 29th AUGUST, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from Thursday, 26th July, to Wednesday, 8th August (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered. By Order of the Board of Directors, JOHN ARNOLD, Secretary. Hongkong, 10th July, 1923. [1090]

NOTICES TO PUBLIC.

"SARPEDON" G.U.K. ARRIVED 8.7.23.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Original Countersigned Bill of Lading No. 52 covering Shipment of SUOX No. 1

1 Case VELVET is said to have been LOST and is therefore declared null and void. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. O.S.S. Co., Ltd. & C.M.S.N. Co., Ltd. [1101]

HONGKONG SMALL INVESTORS' SHARE AND REAL ESTATE CO. SHARE AND LAND BROKERS.

No. 8, Des Vaux Road, 2nd Floor. Telephone No. C. 4308. [107]

FOR SALE.

5,000 FEET OF STEEL CABLE in Good Condition 3 1/2 inches Circumference. Apply to PEAK T.M.WAYES, CO., LTD., Alexandra Buildings. [1077]

TO LET.

OFFICES IN UNION BUILDING—Four Rooms on Fifth Floor. Apply UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD. [1119]

INTIMATIONS

THE KOWLOON HOTEL, HANKOW ROAD.

OPENING 1st SEPTEMBER.

FIRST Class and Most Up-to-date Residential and Tourist Hotel. Six Suites of Commodious Large and Airy Rooms with every Modern Appliance. Elevator to Every Floor and to Roof Garden. Hot and Cold Water, Electric Lights, Fans and Bells throughout. Exceptionally Well Ventilated Bar and Billiard Rooms. Moderate tariff and most Excellent Cuisine supervised by Experienced Chef. Monthly and Family Rates can be arranged at Most Reasonable Terms. For Terms, Apply to Mrs. J. J. BLAKE, Manageress. [1115]

THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCE BANK, LTD.

HEAD OFFICE: York Building, Chater Road Hongkong. BRANCHES: Shanghai—51, Kiangsoo Road. Hankow—British Consulate.

CORRESPONDENTS IN: London, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Vancouver, B.C., Honolulu, Singapore, Penang, Tientsin, Swat, W. Macao, Canton and all Commercial centres of China and abroad.

PROMPT SERVICE. Attractive rates for all kinds of Deposits. Inquiries are welcome. T. B. MAL, Manager. [1865]

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS CO., INCORPORATED.

HEAD OFFICE: NEW YORK CITY.

INTERNATIONAL BANKING-SHIPPING-TRAVEL.

Eighty Offices are established in the Principal Cities of the World to provide Commercial Organizations and Private Individuals with a complete World Wide Banking, Shipping and Travel Service.

COMMERCIAL LETTERS OF CREDIT. DEPOSIT AND CURRENT ACCOUNTS.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE. LETTERS OF CREDIT. TRAVELERS CHEQUES. LETTERS OF CREDIT. STEAMSHIP PASSAGES. HOTEL RESERVATIONS. BAGGAGE INSURANCE. CABLE AND POSTAL REMITTANCES. PURCHASE OF BILLS OF EXCHANGE. Every approved Banking, Shipping and Travel Transaction. P. J. VANHECKE, Manager.

RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK.

CAPITAL (FULLY-PAID) ... 55,000,000 Rubles. RESERVE FUND ... 25,000,000. CAPITAL CONTRIBUTED BY THE Knp. Ts. CHINESE GOVERNMENT ... 3,500,000. RESERVE FUND ... 1,750,000. HEAD OFFICE: Paris 9, Rue Boudreau. LONDON OFFICE: 64, Old Broad Street, E.C.2.

BANKERS: LONDON: Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co. Societe Generale pour l'Avancement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France. PARIS: Societe Generale pour l'Avancement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France. Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas. LYONS: Societe Generale pour l'Avancement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France. NEW YORK: The Irving Bank—Columbia Trust Company. SAN FRANCISCO: The Crocker National Bank of San Francisco.

BRANCHES IN ASIA: Tientsin, Hankow, Shanghai, Canton, Hongkong, Peking, Khabarovsk, Harbin, Nanchang, Urumchi, Dairen, Hongkong, Yokohama, Rangoon, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Singapore, Batavia, Surabaya, Medan, Palembang, Sumatra, Java, Celebes, Siam, Bangkok, Saigon, Haiphong, Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai, Tientsin, Hankow, Peking, Harbin, Nanchang, Urumchi, Dairen, Hongkong, Yokohama, Rangoon, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Singapore, Batavia, Surabaya, Medan, Palembang, Sumatra, Java, Celebes, Siam, Bangkok, Saigon, Haiphong.

HONGKONG BRANCH: Interest allowed on Current Accounts and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application. Local Bills discounted. Foreign Exchange on the Principal Cities of the World bought and sold. R. A. RODGERS, Manager. [137]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES. OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD. CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

FROM NEW YORK VIA MANILA. CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer.

"HYSON" are hereby notified that the Cargo will be discharged into Holt's Wharf, Kowloon, where it will be at Consignee's risk and subject to terms and conditions of storage at Holt's Wharf. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Godown on and after 31st July. Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival. All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and Noon within the free storage period. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 6th Aug. will be subject to rent. All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 20th Aug., or they will not be recognized. No Fire Insurance will be effected. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 31st July, 1923. [1119]

INTIMATION

JOHN DEWAR & SONS, LTD.

PERTH, SCOTLAND.

By Royal Appointment to His Majesty The King.

"WHITE LABEL"

FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY OF GREAT AGE.

AWARDED 50 GOLD AND PRIZE MEDALS.

THE VICTORIA VAT

The very finest old SCOTCH WHISKY.

As supplied to the Houses of Lords and Commons.

SOLE AGENTS—

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

Wine & Spirit Merchants.

PHONE 616.

BIRTH.

Black.—At Shanghai, on July 27th, to Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Black, a daughter.

Hongkong Office: 14, Chater Road. London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, AUGUST 2ND, 1923.

THE PORT OF CANTON.

Mr. A. H. HARRIS, whose last appointment in the service of the Chinese Maritime Customs, was as Commissioner at Canton, marked the close of his career in the service by a Report on the Foreign Trade of Canton which contains features of extraordinary interest. Two of these we reproduce in our columns to-day.

One relates to the way in which the railways are suffering by reason of the continual political disturbances in the province, which are so fatal to remunerative trade and commerce; the other relates to the shoddy of the harbour and the need of serious attention to the problem of harbour conservancy which is urged "alike in the interests of the trading requirements of this great port and of the foreign and Chinese property involved."

Both these subjects should be of peculiar interest to Dr. Sun Yat Sen who in his programme for the "international development of China" emphasised the desirability, nay, the necessity, of making Canton a first-class seaport. In an introductory paragraph to the exposition of his scheme, he wrote: "Canton's position as a seaport has been taken away by Hongkong since its cession to England after the Opium War. But as a commercial centre of South China, Canton still holds its own, despite the advantages which Hongkong has of a deep-water harbour, artificial improvements of the port, and the political dominance of England. The loss of Canton's position as a seaport is entirely due to the ignorance of the

Chinese people who never made any combined effort to improve the welfare of the country, and also to the corrupt government and officials of the Manchou Government." Dr. Sun told us that since the establishment of the Republic, the people had begun to "awake very rapidly" and many schemes had been suggested to make Canton a seaport. What has become of them? None of them have yet materialised. It will, indeed, be time enough to think of these bigger developments when harbour improvements have been made to meet Canton's present urgent needs. The Harbour Master's report draws attention to the silting up of the harbour at several points and to the fact that "the long bund and foreshore in the Front reach is still in a state of fearful congestion and is likely to remain so until the Municipality can see their way to erect properly constructed wharves for the use of the numerous launches and passenger junks lying between Canton and the delta."

The Commissioner of Customs draws "serious attention" to the Harbour Master's report, and referring to certain projects for reclamation and bunding Mr. HARRIS says: "Both the Pearl River up to Wongsah—the terminus of the railway from Hankow—and the approach to Whampoa need deepening to admit vessels of some 16 to 18 ft., or possibly 20 ft. draught at all times. Whampoa or an adjacent site can never, in my opinion, become an ocean steamer deep-water terminus, although plans to that end may be projected, engineers and contractors alone will derive profit; it cannot be a remunerative enterprise. Improvement, however, with the less ambitious object is most desirable. We think the Canton authorities will agree that Mr. HARRIS is not a man to 'hinder every move to restore Canton as a seaport,' as the Hongkong authorities were unwarrantably accused of doing in Dr. SUN's memorandum in his project for the international development of China. Mr. HARRIS has studied the matter with a mind which, if biased at all, would be in favour of Chinese aspirations, and he expressed opinions which should not be lightly disregarded. In any case improvement on a scale less ambitious than making Canton a 'world port' are imperatively required, and seem likely to absorb all the money the Municipality will be able to raise for harbour works for many years to come. When these improvements have been made it will be time enough to consider the enormously costly enterprise of making Canton a 'world port.'"

The Observatory yesterday reported the position of the typhoon as 14N. 120E., moving W.

Two cases of small-pox were notified in the return issued by the Medical Officer of Health yesterday.

Mr. D. H. Cameron and Mr. R. C. Morton were passengers by the President Tuff which left yesterday.

The Scapher which is bringing the London mail up from Singapore will be in at noon to-day, instead of to-morrow as previously announced.

The total rainfall registered at the Botanic Gardens during July was 20.43 inches. The heaviest fall was on July 27th when 5.76in. were recorded.

The Hongkong Hotel announces a special dinner dansant in the grill rooms on Bank Holiday (Monday next). The dancing will be from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight, with an augmented Jazz Orchestra.

During the absence on leave of the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonachie, the duties of Officiating Presbyterian Chaplain to the Forces are to be undertaken by the Rev. W. T. Lindsay, B.D., B.Sc., whose address is "The Manse," Kennedy Road.

Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son, of Hongkong, have published a "Home Leave" pamphlet, which gives routes and fares to Europe, America and Australia, including side trips in Java, India, Egypt, Palestine and Europe. Those who are going on leave at any time should find this little book very useful when planning their holiday.

According to the Shanghai Journal of Commerce the bandits under the command of Sun Mei Yao, of Lincheng fame, who were recently enrolled in the regular army, are continuing their old trade in Shantung. Yihien has been taken by them. The Military Governor, Gen. Tien Chung Yu, is said to have refused to take action in the matter.

We have received a copy of the report of Inspector Fisher, S.P.C.A., on the inspection work done in the Colony during the month of July. The work covers cattle, pigs, sheep and goats imported, exported or in transit, visits to the markets (including those of the New Territory), birdshops, landing places, dogs' home, railway stations, cattle depots, pig pens, and various other places. Two market stall proprietors were prosecuted during the month and fines were imposed by the magistrate.

A man described as a Chinese military officer giving the name of Chin Kam Shun, 33 years of age, was admitted to the Government Civil Hospital on Tuesday suffering from a bullet wound in the back, which he is said to have received four days ago during the fighting at Tam Shui, in Chinese Territory. The wounded man apparently made his way to Hongkong either by junk or steam launch.

A Chinese, alleged to be engaged in smuggling jade into Japan from China, has been arrested by the Yokohama police who declared that he arrived at Yokohama on the Nippon Yusen Kaisha str. Chikugo Maru from a Chinese port with a trunk containing 2,500 pieces of jade which he attempted to smuggle into the port. The man is alleged to have had the trunk equipped with a double bottom with the jade hidden below the first bottom. The police are reported to have discovered the trick by measuring the outside dimensions of the trunk and comparing them with the space at the bottom of the trunk and upon removing the false bottom discovered the jade which is declared to be worth several thousand yen. The Chinese is now being held in gaol pending trial.

CHINA'S PROPOSED CONFERENCE.

GENERAL WU PEI FU TELEGRAPHS TO SIR ROBERT HO TUNG.

In continuation of previous communications Sir Robert Ho Tung informs us that he is in receipt of a telegram in Chinese dated 29th July, 1923, from General Wu Pei Fu. "In that telegram," Sir Robert says, "he was kind enough to allude to my initiative for bringing about a conference of Chinese leaders and others as a public-spirited and patriotic movement. Regarding the problem of the Peaceful Unification of China, I am quoting General Wu Pei Fu, he says: 'As has for years been my fervent hope that it should be solved in a conscientious and wide-awake manner, and that this solution should be entrusted to the people themselves.'"

Sir Robert Ho Tung adds that he is in telegraphic communication with General Wu Pei Fu in reply to his telegram of 29th July, and awaits the outcome of the exchange of telegrams with much interest.

THE NICKEL COIN AT CANTON.

"ENTIRELY DISAPPEARED FROM CIRCULATION."

The Canton Daily News says:—On account of its depreciated value, the nickel coin has entirely disappeared from circulation, and much inconvenience is caused the people, who are compelled to carry a large number of the cumbersome copper cents. The scarcity of the tencent silver coins in the market is another inconvenience to the people. With a view to restoring the value of the much-depreciated nickel coins, the Government has issued an order to the effect that, commencing to-day, all collecting offices of the Government will accept the nickel coins at face value in payment of taxes and revenue. The Department of Public Utilities will accept nickel coins in payment of ricksha licence fees, and the ricksha coolies have been instructed to accept these coins from their customers at face value. Hereafter, the likin station will also accept nickel coins at face value in payment of 20 per cent. of likin charges.

The reason given for the depreciation of the nickel coin is the excessive amount of the coin in circulation. By stopping the further issue of these coins, and by accepting them at face value in payment of taxes and likin charges, it is hoped that the value of the coin will soon return to normal.

TWO MILLION POUND DEAL.

Messrs. John Dewar & Sons, Ltd., with Messrs. Buchanan and John Walker & Sons, have just completed a Two Million Pound deal by purchasing the entire business of James Watson, of Dundee, including whisky stocks of five and a half million gallons, and the following important distilleries:—Parkmore, Dufftown, Ord, Glenora and Pittenwey. Besides several other distilleries. Messrs. John Dewar & Sons, Ltd., have also recently secured the famous Royal Lochnagar Distillery at Balmoral, which is situated on the estate of H.M. The King.

Messrs. John Dewar & Sons, Ltd., have thereby insured ample future supplies of the very finest quality of Scotch Whisky, enabling them to maintain their high standard of quality for at least the next quarter of a century.

CABLES.

EARLIER CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

**PRESIDENT HARDING'S
CONDITION.**
ENCOURAGING BULLETINS.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31st.
Dr. Sawyer states that President Harding enjoyed his best night comparatively since his illness.
Dr. Sawyer added: "That augurs well, and the conditions now seem to warrant the statement that, apparently, he has got into clear sailing."

LATER.
This morning's bulletin states that President Harding spent fairly comfortable night and enjoyed "considerable sleep." His temperature is 100° Fahrenheit, pulse 130, and respiration 40 regular. There has been no expansion in the pulmonary areas, the heart action is definitely improved and nourishment and fluids have been taken regularly. The patient says that he feels better and he is less exhausted.

The afternoon bulletin says the President has maintained ground and gained since last evening. Laboratory findings indicate the elimination of the poison from the system, improving the patient who is more comfortable and resting better.

LATEST CABLES.

**PRESIDENT HARDING MUCH
BETTER.**

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31st.
General Sawyer states that Mr. Harding has passed the crisis and is now well on the way to recovery.

**PRESIDENT'S INTENDED SPEECH
RELEASED.**

BRITAIN'S "ASSURANCE OF WORLD-WIDE STABILITY."

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31st.
President Harding's secretary has released the speech the President intended to deliver on the administration and accomplishments in the international field during the past two years.

Reference is made to the Washington Conference, as the outstanding achievement, also to the settlement of the British Debt. In this matter "Great Britain put a fresh stamp of approval on the sacredness of international obligations," and the settlement gives "a new assurance of world-wide stability."

The speech reiterates the conviction that the American Government should support the Court of International Justice.

With reference to Russia, it says that international good faith forbids any sort of sanction of the Bolshevik policy.

IMMIGRANT STEAMERS' RACE.
ELEVEN LINERS WITH 12,000 IMMIGRANTS.

Immigration officials who were posted down the Bay in order to referee the time for traversing the imaginary line, of the steamers straining to be earliest to disembark immigrants under the August quota, state that eleven liners, with 12,000 first, second and third-class immigrants, crossed the line at one o'clock this morning, within four minutes of each other. Mr. Curran (Immigration Commissioner) states that over-crowding on Ellis Island will not be allowed, and steamers must "hold their passengers until there is room ashore."

**STRIKE OF SILESIAN METAL
WORKERS ENDED.**

BERLIN, July 31st.
The strike of metal workers in Silesia, mentioned in a cable message dated July 21st, has terminated.

EARLIER CABLES.

DISABLED IN THE WAR.
A TOTAL OF TEN MILLION.

GENEVA, July 31st.
In a preliminary report to the experts assembled to discuss the question of the position of men disabled in the war, the International Labour Office states that there is ample evidence that the number of men in the world disabled by the war amounts to 10,000,000. Of these 7,124,000 are receiving pensions in the principal belligerent countries including the following:

Germany	1,537,000
France	1,500,000
Great Britain	1,170,000
Italy	800,000
Russia	775,000
Belgium	775,000
United States	157,000
Canada	45,000
New Zealand	20,000
Australia	10,000

SWISS LOAN TO BE FLOATED.

NEW YORK, July 31st.
Messrs. J. P. Morgan and Company announce that a Swiss Loan of twenty million dollars, redeemable in three years, will be floated here.

**POSITION OF AMERICAN
PRODUCTS.**

WASHINGTON, July 31st.
The Federal Reserve Board's monthly statement expresses the opinion that the present strength and liquidity of the banks and the added facility for financing agriculture will assure a supply of credit to meet seasonal requirements. It draws attention to the hand-to-mouth buying in Europe, and explains that the situation necessitates financing American products until the foreign demand increases.

LATEST CABLES.

**HAMBURG-MUNICH EXPRESS
IN COLLISION.**
FORTY-FOUR BODIES RECOVERED.

BERLIN, July 31st.
The bodies of 44 victims of the Hamburg-Munich express disaster have up to the present been recovered. Thirty-four injured persons have been sent to hospital at Gork and Ingen, of whom three are not expected to live.

EARLIER CABLES.

BERLIN, July 31st.
The Hamburg-Munich express collided with a stationary train near Cassel. Twenty-seven passengers were killed and 25 injured.

LATER.
It is now reported that 20 were killed and 43 injured in the Hamburg-Munich express disaster, which was due to the driver not seeing that the signals were against him owing to a piece of dirt lying into his eye.

GERMAN REPARATIONS.
REPLIES DISCUSSED BY BRITISH CABINET.

LONDON, July 31st.
A special Cabinet meeting discussed the Franco-Belgian replies.

LATER.
Comment on the Franco-Belgian replies is reserved in British official circles pending the Cabinet's conclusions, which will be transmitted to France to-morrow, but it is reliably understood "that the French communication is of such a character as to give no grounds for undue optimism."

It is believed that the French attitude on most points is reaffirmed, and that there is at present no marked tendency towards any modification of policy.

GERMANY'S TAXATION MEASURES.

BERLIN, July 31st.
The Cabinet adopted a number of taxation Bills with the object of quickly obtaining funds in view of the depreciation of the Mark.

The Bills provide for an increase of 100 per cent in income-tax and a heavily increased corporation tax by companies to meet the occupation costs.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

INDIA'S REPRESENTATION.

LONDON, July 31st.
The India Office, in a *communiqué*, says that Viscount Peel, the Maharajah of Alwar, and Sir Sagar will represent India at the Imperial Conference.

L.O.N. ASSEMBLY.

INDIA'S REPRESENTATIVES.

LONDON, July 31st.
Viscount Hardinge, the Maharajah of Nawanganar and Sayid Hassan-Inam will represent India at the Assembly of the Nations.

**SOVIET THREAT TO BRITISH
SHIP.**

ROME, July 31st.
The Soviet authorities at East Cape have advised Captain Noice, the head of the expedition to relieve the *Crawford* party marooned on Wrangel Island, that unless his ship *Donaldson* calls at Petropavlovsk for clearance papers and at East Cape for a contingent of Red guards to be taken to Wrangel Island, the *Donaldson* will be confiscated.

**PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN
BRITISH DEPENDENCIES.**

LONDON, July 31st.
The Duke of Devonshire has appointed a Committee with Lord Ronald Dunsford as Chairman, composed of Sir William Akworth, Sir Frederick Lugard, Sir William Merer, Sir James Stevenson, Sir Edwin Stockton, and Messrs J. C. Davidson and C. E. Gunther, to consider measures to encourage private enterprise in the development of British dependencies, with special reference to existing and projected schemes for transportation.

THE TURF.

RESULT OF STEWARDS' CUP.

LONDON, July 31st.
At Goodwood, the race for the Stewards' Cup resulted as follows:—
Epinald 1
Jarvis 2
Hunting Grog 3
Fourteen ran. Epinald won by two lengths, with a head separating second and third.
The betting was: 7 to 2 agst. Epinald, 10 to 1 agst. Jarvis, and 100 to 1 agst. Hunting Grog.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.
SUSPENDED LABOUR MEMBERS.

LONDON, July 31st.
A large section of the members of the House of Commons showed a marked disinclination to accept the motion of Mr. Baldwin terminating the suspension of the Labour members who were suspended on June 28th, but the motion was subsequently agreed to without a division.

RUBBER.

**"PERCENTAGE STANDARD OF
PRODUCTION."**

LONDON, July 31st.
The Colonial Office announces that the percentage standard of production of rubber on the minimum duty from Ceylon, Straits Settlements and the Malay States for the quarter beginning August 1st has been fixed at 60.

HOME CRICKET RESULTS.
PLAY INTERRUPTED BY RAIN.

LONDON, July 31st.
At Bournemouth, Sussex beat Hampshire by eight wickets. For Sussex Tate took 4 for 42 and 6 for 68.

The match between Lancashire and Warwickshire at Manchester had to be abandoned owing to rain, and was declared a draw.

Rain interrupted all the matches. The one between Surrey and Kent at the Oval was drawn, and the remainder resulted as follows:—

At Derby, Derbyshire beat Worcester on the first innings.
Yorkshire beat Notts at Nottingham on the first innings.

Essex at Northampton beat Northamptonshire on the first innings. Freeman for Essex in the first innings compiled 135.

Leicester at Swansea beat Glamorgan on the first innings. For Leicester, Mounteney in the first innings knocked out 57.

At Bristol, the West Indies beat Gloucestershire on the first innings. The West Indian, Challenor, in the first innings compiled 111, not out. For Gloucestershire, Dipper knocked out 129, not out.

TENNIS.

**DAVIS CUP PLAY INTERRUPTED
BY RAIN.**

DEAUVILLE, July 31st.
Owing to rain there was no play in the Davis Cup competition.

**THE ANTI-JAPANESE
AGITATION.**

**VIEWS OF THE NEW JAPANESE
MINISTER TO CHINA.**

A SITUATION BRISTLING WITH DIFFICULTIES.

The following statement by the new Japanese Minister was handed to Ruter's Agency a week ago:—

"Having devoted the 20 odd years of my service in the Government almost exclusively to the study of problems of the Far East, especially of China, it naturally affords me the greatest pleasure to represent my country at Peking, which possesses for me such delightful associations and where I have so many friends and acquaintances."

In regard to China, it had been Japan's settled policy constantly to endeavour to promote relations of good neighbourliness between the two nations, to advance their mutual interests, and in co-operation with the other Powers concerned to contribute to the peace and happiness of China and her people in general. I cannot help feeling the most profound sympathy for the Chinese people for the incessant internal strife to which they have been subjected ever since the revolution of 1912, and I sincerely wish and hope for a speedy pacification of the entire land and the re-establishment of a united government. While it is much to be regretted that there are so many questions calling for settlement between our two nations which have not yet been adjusted, it is my intention to be guided by a spirit of sincerity, as well as propriety and necessity under given circumstances, in my efforts to dispose of questions whether of common international interest or of special concern to China and Japan.

A GRAVE OUTLOOK.

The anti-Japanese agitation, now intensely being carried on in so many parts of China, is especially to be regretted, and I can only express my hope that the Chinese authorities, both central and local, may take measures best calculated to put a speedy end to this pernicious movement. It would appear to me, that the boycott agitation not having the support of the best elements of China and not all of the people of the localities affected being in sympathy with it, will die a natural death at no distant date. Should it prove, however, to be the case, as is repeatedly reported, that politicians and even officials are involved in the movement and they either incite or at least connive at acts of lawlessness against Japanese interests, the whole matter would assume an aspect highly deplorable for China.

It is earnestly to be hoped that the people of China may realize that the nation is at this juncture confronted with a situation bristling with difficulties of very grave nature both internally and in its relations with other nations, and that that realization may lead to their best efforts resulting in the rehabilitation of a nation so justly proud of its great past.

A YEAR OF EARTHQUAKES.

Says *Le Courier Saignonnais* in a recent issue:—The year 1923 will perhaps be a good vintage, but it seems to be a year too of abundant earthquakes. The Abbot Moreau, in his review *Scientific*, says:—The last months of 1922 and the first of this year have witnessed several earthquakes. They have taken place at Manila, Arica, Porygnay, and more notably so in America. The Abbot prophesies a series of cataclysms from seismic upheavals in Japan, the Antilles, Mexico, and perhaps in Turkistan. The Midi, in France, will also, he says, experience shock but happily of a less disastrous nature. The Director of the Observatory at Bourges went the subject writes:—Solar activity is the main cause of the scientific declarations made by Abbot Moreau. It is this factor which augments or diminishes the electrical charges in the terrestrial atmosphere and provokes expansions or contractions on the crust of the earth. Solar activity was at its maximum in 1917 and this year should be at its minimum. That is the reason why our household goods may be on a dance one of these nights.

**FAR EASTERN CABLE
NEWS.**

THE FIGHTING AT AMOY.
CHINESE CRUISERS FIRE ON THE RAILWAY.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]
AMOY, August 1st.
Chinese cruisers are firing on the Amoy-Changchow railway.

Two Japanese destroyers have arrived.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
ANOTHER POLITICAL UPHEAVAL.

PEKING, August 1st.
Government sources are without news of the happenings at Amoy, but messages sent to other sources disclose the occurrence of serious trouble.

It seems that General Tsang Chih Ping, who was suspected of entertaining Anti-sympathies, apparently decided to join Li Lieh Chua (the Kuangsi pro-Sun General) and to support the Kuomintang Party.

SOUTHERN FORCES DRIVEN OUT.
In the subsequent fighting the Chinese troops got out of hand, forcibly entering the Foreign Concession and firing indiscriminately on the shipping. Two Chinese gunboats, who were supporting the Northern cause, opened fire upon the forts, and, finally, the Southern forces were driven out.

General Tsang Chih Ping is now in Changchow.

[H.M.S. *Dunelm* and H.M.S. *Exe* were despatched to Amoy yesterday.]

**DECREASE IN CHINESE CUSTOMS
RETURNS.**

**DUE TO ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT
AND GENERAL UNREST.**

Reuter's representative has been reliably informed that, despite the effective five per cent import tariff, the net revenue collected by the Customs Authorities for the month of July, as compared with July last year, shows a decrease of nearly Shanghai Ts. 180,000.

It is pointed out that the effective five per cent tariff should, by now, be coming fully effective.

The above figures show that, owing to the anti-Japanese boycott and the general unrest, the large increase that was expected has not eventuated.

BY COURTESY OF THE "DAILY BULLETIN."
LINCHENG INDEMNITY AGREEMENT.

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION.

SHANGHAI, July 31st.
The *China Press* learns from an authoritative source that under the agreement reached by the diplomats, the following schedule of indemnities will be demanded from the Chinese Government for foreigners captured by the Lincheng bandits, according to the length of time the prisoners were held captive: For the first three days, including the date of capture, \$300 daily; four to ten, \$100; 11 to 17, \$150; 18 to 24, \$200; 25 to 31, \$250; and 32 to 38, \$300—a total for the 38 days of captivity of \$8,500.

The above is similar to Reuter's forecast from London.

The demands have not yet been presented to the Chinese Government, largely owing to the absence of a Government head.

CONFERENCE AT PAOTINGFU.

PEKING, July 31st.
General Hsiung Ping Chi, Tsao Jui and Wang Yu Chien, Director of the Wine and Tobacco Administration, have proceeded to Paotungfu, where the leaders are expected to hold a conference to-day.

It is hinted in certain circles that the last-named has been offered the portfolio of Finance Minister.

FINANCIAL SITUATION WORSE.

PEKING, July 31st.
Owing to the deadlock in completing the Cabinet, the financial situation is becoming worse.

It is understood that Feng Yu Hsiang can derive \$100,000 monthly from the octroi for the payment of his troops, but no funds appear to be available for the metropolitan police, gendarmerie, and other Government employees.

According to the vernacular papers, the banks are planning to hold a meeting with a view to subscribing a sum of money towards the payment of the police and gendarmes, but this is not confirmed. Considering the financial chaos, internal bonds have kept steady.

SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS.
FOURPARLERS ENDED.

TOKYO, July 31st.
M. Joffe and Mr. Kawakami met formally for the last time this afternoon and the preliminary *pourparlers* ended.

The Government will later decide whether the exchange of views justifies the opening of a formal conference.

SUMMARY COURT.

[REUTERS HIS HONOUR THE JUSTICE JUDGE (MR. H. H. J. COMPERT).]

A DEBT PROBLEM.

An Indian money lender who, according to his own statement, occasionally lent money to friends at no interest whatever, and without making any documents relating to these transactions to prove that they really took place, sued a fellow Indian in the Summary Court yesterday morning for the sum of \$428.50, the equivalent of Rupees 750, money that he alleged he lent to defendant "as a friend."

Plaintiff, who gave his name as Sawan, briefed counsel to represent him, Mr. F. C. Jenkin appearing on his behalf. The defendant, Ghulam Mohamed, was represented by Mr. McCallum.

Mr. Jenkin, outlining his case, stated that Sawan lent the money to defendant in October of 1921. At that time they were great friends, and the defendant lived with the plaintiff in the latter's house. His reason for borrowing the money was that he and his brother owned a certain piece of land in India, and they needed funds to clear off a mortgage. He originally asked for Rupees 1,000, but plaintiff only let him have Rs. 750. There were no documents to serve as records, owing to the fact that the money was lent by the plaintiff as a purely friendly loan. No interest was charged, no receipt was given or asked, and no documents of any sort were made. Mr. Jenkin here remarked that this was not uncommon among Indians. He went on to state that there were two witnesses to the loan as well as the principals, though unfortunately one was at the moment out of the Colony. Between October of 1921 until April this year the defendant made numerous efforts to pay the money back in small instalments. At one period his brother, a watchman like himself, fell ill and the defendant pleaded that he had to pay the medical expenses. This was true. The brother died, and plaintiff did not press for the money. Later, defendant made another attempt to pay the money off by instalments of about \$20 a month, but he fell off with these payments altogether. In April of this year plaintiff went to see Inspector Shannon, who was in charge of the police guards, and asked him to see the defendant about the debt. At this time the defendant had entered the force as a guard. Inspector Shannon saw the man in the presence of his Magistrate, and the latter would give evidence to the effect that he saw both the men about the debt. Some time after this the two men, who were still living together, had a very bitter quarrel. Plaintiff possessed a chop which he used in connection with his banking account. It was his habit to keep the thing under his pillow of a night, and one morning he woke up and found it missing. He accused the defendant of stealing it and instigated police court proceedings. He failed to turn up at the charge was dropped. It was shortly after this that he took out this summons. Sawan gave evidence bearing out the foregoing statement.

Cross-examined by Mr. McCallum, he stated that he was a registered money lender, and as far as he knew was registered simply in the name of "Sawan."

Mr. McCallum: I suggest that you registered as Sawan Singh.

Witness: I don't think so. As far as I know I was simply registered as "Sawan." Anyhow, the responsibility is not mine, I did not write the name, the clerk wrote it.

Mr. McCallum then asked whether it was not true that the defendant, on behalf of his deceased brother, had claimed from Sawan the sum of \$300.

Plaintiff denied this.

Mr. McCallum suggested that the plaintiff, on hearing that the defendant had taken out a summons for that \$300, offered to withdraw his present claim if they would drop theirs, and this course was agreed upon.

Defendant said this was not true.

Mr. McCallum's defence was that the money was never lent to the defendant. At all. He pointed out that while the man's brother was alive he had a good many transactions with the plaintiff, and these only came to light when he died. Books were found on him which gave the history of his dealings with Sawan, and he claimed that this particular debt was, in all probability, owed the plaintiff by the defendant's dead brother. Certainly his client never borrowed the money.

His Honour remarked, that after carefully considering the case in all its aspects, he could do nothing else but find for the plaintiff. Accordingly he gave judgment for Sawan.

**CHINESE BANKERS' AND THE
DOMESTIC LOANS.**

The Chinese bankers at Shanghai are stated to have wired directly to Sir F. Aglen, Inspector-General of the Maritime Customs, who is now in England, asking whether he could return to China in the near future and what he proposed to do, in view of the fact that the values in Chinese domestic bonds are falling rapidly in the markets, chiefly on account of Chinese political upheavals. Further, the Chinese have asked the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai to retain any surplus for local purpose and not remit it to Peking.

**20 CENTS THE PRICE OF
A LIE.**

**SIXTH PLEASANTRIES IN A
SHANGHAI COURT.**

In H.M. Supreme Court, at Shanghai last week, before Sir Skinner Turner, Mr. R. C. Faithfull sued Bisher Singh, the money-lender, for \$27.50, fees due for professional services rendered.

Upon looking at plaintiff's bill of costs, his Lordship observed, "This bill can never conceivably be allowed. The action is for \$146, and your fees come to about \$200."

Mr. Faithfull—According to the rules, a bill between a practitioner and his client is taxable on Scale 2, and I have made out this bill according to Scale 1.

Defendant contended that he had paid \$50 in cash to plaintiff and that plaintiff had drawn \$80 from the Mixed Court.

Mr. Faithfull—I have not drawn a farthing except that \$50 from the Mixed Court. I appeared for defendant in the Supreme Court in a case against a man named Williams, which case lasted over three days, and for weeks and weeks in the Mixed Court, in the case of a Chinese whose name I do not remember. I appeared there for five days and charged \$10 a day. The case was adjourned each time, the Court having no time to deal with it.

Defendant insisted that he had paid \$50 in cash and this was denied.

Mr. Faithfull called his interpreter, Santa Hando, in support of his statement that no cash had been paid, and defendant informed the court that every Indian knew that Hando was "one big liar." He had been in prison. Witness admitted that he had served six months in connexion with a charge of fraud.

Defendant—He will tell a lie for 20 cents.

His Lordship—Is your price for a lie 20 cents?

Witness—No, my Lord.

His Lordship—"What is your price for a lie" seems to be the next question.

Witness—I never tell a lie at all.

Defendant in the witness box, after repeating that he paid \$50 in cash to Mr. Faithfull, stated that upon finding that plaintiff had drawn \$80 from the Mixed Court, money deposited in connexion with a judgment, he went to Mr. Faithfull to ask for it, and was pushed out of the office.

His Lordship, having inquired into the dates of the transactions, said he would make inquiry with regard to the money drawn from the Mixed Court, and with this reservation gave judgment for the amount claimed, subject to plaintiff's bill being gone through by the taxing master.

CHINESE QUESTIONS.
SIR JOHN JORDAN ON RAILWAYS,
EXTRATERRITORIALITY
AND FINANCE.

Reviewing the "China Year Book" for 1922, for the *Observer*, Sir John Jordan makes the following comments:—

Chinese railways have nearly all been constructed with foreign capital, and the recent outrage on the Tientsin-Pukow Railway has accentuated the importance of safeguarding the main lines of communication in the interests of the foreign investor as well as in that of the travelling public, both Chinese and foreign.

There are close upon £20,000,000 of British money sunk in railway construction in China, and it is rather disquieting to learn that in the year 1922 the Northern *tuchuns* appropriated no less than £2,000,000 (say, £2,500,000) of railway revenue. The efficient policing of the railways is an absolute necessity if confusion is not to become still worse confounded.

Extraterritoriality is a question on which Mr. Woodhead writes with knowledge and political insight. Its importance is accentuated by the fortuitous turn of events in the Near East which has enabled Turkey to get rid of the capitulations at the cost of doubling of sacrificing a large part of her foreign trade. China is now one of the few States in which these restrictions still exist, and as long as the military dominates the country and recognise no laws but force, extraterritoriality is the only safeguard on which our immense interests can rely for protection.

The most instructive chapter in the book is perhaps the one which treats of the tangled problem of Chinese finance. The impression which the ordinary reader will derive from a scrutiny of the long list of unsecured and short term loans will probably be that no such reckless borrowing has taken place since the days of Imperial Peking. Inasmuch, in his palmy days, borrowed at the rate of £2,000,000 a year. China has easily beaten that record. Inasmuch, in his palmy days, borrowed at the rate of £2,000,000 a year. China has easily beaten that record. Inasmuch, in his palmy days, borrowed at the rate of £2,000,000 a year. China has easily beaten that record.

PASTEUR CENTENARY.
GREAT INTERNATIONAL TRIBUTE.

The ceremonies in honour of the centenary of the great scientist Pasteur began on May 25th in Paris with a remarkable international tribute to his memory at the University of Paris.

After preliminary speeches, "representatives of the world" rose in their places, and each in his own language read a tribute to Pasteur. There were twenty of these.

Then one by one rose 100 other delegates representing famous universities. As the name of each university was called the delegate placed a written tribute to Pasteur, enclosed in a special case, upon the President's desk.

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MODERN MARRIAGE.
YOUTH STILL READY FOR
RESPONSIBILITY.

There is no topic on which people are so ready to discourse as that of marriage, nor is there any subject about which positive assertions are more frequent or, as a rule, more untrustworthy. Since the war it has frequently been stated that the age of marriage both for men and women, but specially for men, has considerably increased. The anxieties of the times and the depression prevailing in industry lent colour to this assertion, which is still very widely believed. In his report, however, on the Vital Statistics for 1921, the Registrar-General makes the positive statement that the ages now most frequently chosen for marriage are, in the case of men, twenty-four and, in the case of women, twenty-one. Youth, in other words, is still ready to accept the full responsibilities of life in spite of all the difficulties which may beset its path. Not only so, but the pessimism which, a few years ago, foretold a decline in the total number of marriages has found no justification. The very highest figure ever recorded was reached in 1920; in 1921 there was only a trifling declension. Indeed, except for the years 1915-19, the years of war and the year 1920, the rate just published has not been exceeded since 1874. These are signs of health in a community of the most unmistakable character, and afford solid ground for the idea that the stress and anxiety through which, as a people, we have passed, have in no way detracted from our idealism or weakened our resolve. These "handsome figures" should be set against the 3,522 cases of divorce or annulment of marriage which took place in the year under review. That number has not, it is stated, been exceeded in any former year; but it amounts to only an insignificant proportion of the total number of marriages, and may properly be regarded as a "casualty rate" rather than as a symptom of ill-health. The present tendency to exaggerate any failure of marriage receives, in these figures, a necessary corrective. The conclusion would seem to be warranted that, as a whole, marriage is a successful state towards which youth is "always straining, and in which, in spite of a multitude of difficulties and dangers, the vast majority of men and women in these islands live their lives in happiness and contentment."—The Times.

THE NUNS OF YPRES.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR AND THE
APPEAL.

The Nuns of Ypres, whose heroic services to our wounded in the war, the loss of their famous Abbey, and their great sacrifices in the common cause can never be forgotten are still in need of £40,000 to establish a new monastic home at Kilmore, Connemara.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, chairman of the executive committee, stated, in an interview recently, that circulars have been sent out in the name of the Lord Mayor of London and of many influential leaders of the appeal, notably Lord Fitzalan, Lord Burnham, and Lord Denbigh. "And I have issued a circular myself," he said, "to all my friends, mainly political. Subscriptions are coming in fairly well considering the immense demands on the philanthropic. Mr. John MacCormack has promised to place the results of a big concert at the disposal of the Nuns, and arrangements are being made for the selection of the place where it will take place; probably it will be in Dublin. It is also hoped that some of the newspapers, will make a special appeal in addition to the kind assistance which they have placed at the disposal of the movement all through."

"Great interest has been shown in that side of the work of the Nuns during the war which dealt with their services to the wounded, and letters have been sent by several of the men, who give the strongest testimony to and express the greatest gratitude for what the Nuns did for them. These are being circulated. It has also been brought home to those who are specially interested in Ypres—and thousands of homes are, of course, included whose sons fought, and in innumerable cases died, on that great battle front—that the School of the Nuns would be a fitting and necessary monument of the centre of the greatest struggle of the war. And in view of the improved relations between England and Ireland by the establishment of self-government, such a monument would be one of the many tokens of reconciliation. For it must always be remembered that the Nuns of Ypres carried on the work of education both for English and Irish young ladies for two centuries and a half; that their abbey always stood in the centre of the great battlegrounds of the last centuries; and that it contained within its walls, and still has preserved, many historic mementoes of those conflicts, including the flag carried by the Irish soldiers in the famous battle of Fontenoy."

FIRST SPIRAL STAIRCASE.

Lecturing on discoveries in Egypt at the Royal Institution on June 6th, Professor Flinders Petrie said that the ancient Egyptians had a moral code, consisting of a self-catechism, wherein the questions were in groups of five. It was probable that this was done so that the fingers could be used as an aid to memory. In Egyptian pictures the ferryman asks the deceased the question, "Can you count your fingers?" and for a long time Egyptologists were puzzled as to its meaning. It was now known that it was the ancient Egyptian method of asking, "Can you say your catechism?" In Ethiopia, eighty miles south of Cairo, there was recently discovered the remains of the first true spiral staircase known. It was found near the ruins of a huge theatre capable of seating 11,000 persons, wherein the stage was apparently 200ft. long.

Mrs. Martin Tells
How Cuticura Healed
Eruptions on Baby

"When my baby was four months old he came out in sore eruptions all over his head. Later the eruptions spread to his body, face, hands, and limbs, and he could not sleep day or night with the itching pains. We had him treated and tried different soaps and ointments but still we could give him no relief. A friend recommended Cuticura Soap and Ointment and before we had used one cake of Cuticura Soap and one box of Cuticura Ointment he was completely healed." (Signed) Mrs. L. M. Martin, 3, Vauxhall St., Plymouth, Eng.

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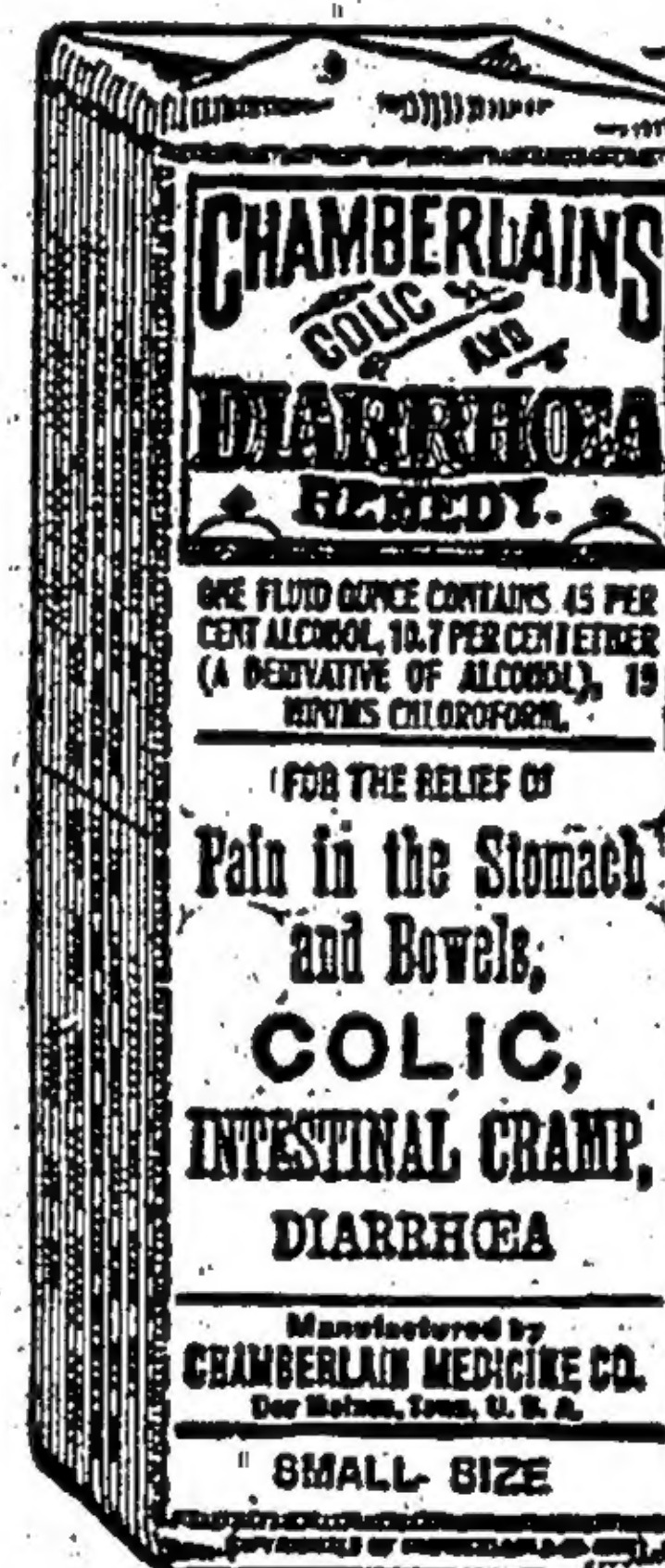
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Hongkong, 28th July, 1933. 1041.

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HONGKONG TIDE TABLE

From July August 2nd to 6th, 1933.

Days of Week	Days of Month	High Water				Low Water			
		H'kong Standard Time	Height	H'kong Standard Time	Height	H'kong Standard Time	Height	H'kong Standard Time	Height
Thurs.	2	1 10	4 7	6 18	2 2	7 21	2 1	8 24	2 1
Fri	3	1 05	5 5	7 21	2 1	8 24	2 1	9 27	2 1
Satur	4	1 07	4 8	7 18	3 5	8 21	3 5	9 24	3 5
Sun	5	1 03	5 1	7 15	3 5	8 18	3 5	9 21	3 5
Mon	6	1 00	5 1	7 12	3 5	8 15	3 5	9 18	3 5
Tues	7	1 00	5 1	7 12	3 5	8 15	3 5	9 18	3 5
Wed	8	1 00	5 1	7 12	3 5	8 15	3 5	9 18	3 5

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Steamers	Tonnage, d.w.	Arrival
*Albert Vogler ...	9,000 tons	11th August
*Carl Legien ...	9,000 tons	First half of Sept.
*Adolf von Baeyer ...	9,000 tons	First half of October
*Emil Kirdorf ...	9,000 tons	First half of November
*Scheer ...	12,300 tons	First half of December

HOMEWARD for Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hamburg

Steamers	Tonnage, d.w.	Departure
*Scheer ...	12,300 tons	18th Aug., Calling at Manila
*Albert Vogler ...	9,000 tons	—
*Carl Legien ...	9,000 tons	—
*Adolf von Baeyer ...	9,000 tons	—
*Emil Kirdorf ...	9,000 tons	—

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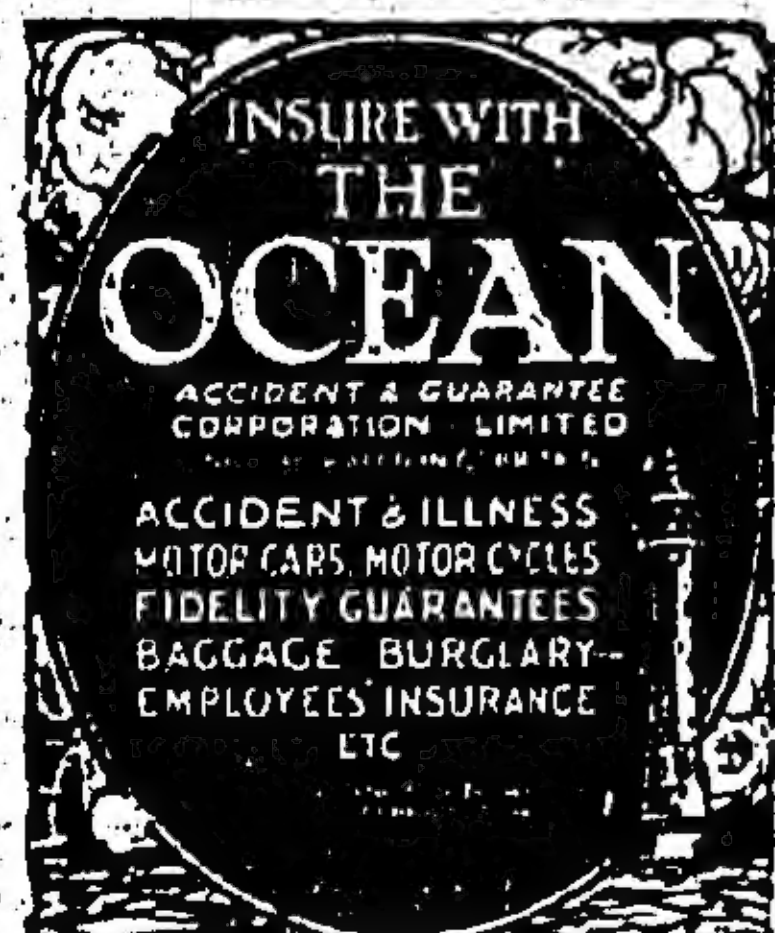
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AMERICA AND BRITISH
SHIPPING.THE SUPREME COURT'S DECISION.
SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

The Washington Correspondent of the London Observer, in an article published on June 24th said:—

An American who is temporarily in London, reading the comments of some of the British papers on recent events arising out of our prohibition law, and hearing the comments of English friends on these events, is dismayed by several fundamental misunderstandings. Some of these misunderstandings arise out of a difference between the legal systems of the two countries, a difference so intricate that it is going to be difficult to clear it up. And yet the effort is worth while.

I suspect that a good many Englishmen think that we in America passed a law specifically calling for the prohibition of liquor on foreign ships in New York harbour. In fact we did nothing of the kind. We never thought of doing anything of the kind. I don't think we ever will do anything of the kind. And, having found that a law we passed for a quite different purpose is now interpreted to include this purpose, I think our people will amend the law—although as to this I am compelled to be a little less positive, because the unhappy acrimony that has arisen over the incident, and the precise condition it is now in, may be attended by the unfortunate results that sometime come when an otherwise simple situation is belaboured by acrimony.

The reason for the British misunderstanding of what has happened is that Britain has no exact, or even very close, analogy to our Supreme Court of the United States. And, lacking that analogy, Britain naturally fails to understand its operations.

THE WRITTEN CONSTITUTION.

The most important function of our Supreme Court is to interpret our written constitution. (Our written constitution is another one of our institutions for which Britain has no analogy.) In effect, by interpreting our constitution is meant this: Whenever Congress passes a law, the Supreme Court, upon appeal from any litigant affected by the law, determines whether the law is consistent with the constitution; and, speaking generally, has the final word in interpreting the meaning of the language in which the law is framed.

To illustrate by the present case: Congress sixty years ago passed, and the States confirmed, an amendment to the constitution calling for the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor in all territory where the laws of the United States ordinarily have effect. In addition to passing the Constitutional amendment, Congress passed the requisite and more detailed statutes necessary for carrying the amendment into effect. The law being passed, the appropriate department of the Government put it into effect, and framed various regulations for that purpose.

This statute and the regulations under it, immediately became effective as the law of the land. But in this instance, as in most instances, specific cases arose in which litigants (including the Government itself) contested the statute and the regulations under it. The issues thus joined were carried up to the Supreme Court of the United States. And the Supreme Court, in the present instance, handed down an interpretation of the law, which among other things, is to the effect that the statute and the regulations in the precise language in which Congress passed it, forbid the carrying of liquor by foreign ships within the three-mile limit.

This is an unanticipated and unintended interpretation put upon a minor and collateral aspect of our prohibition law.

A BY-BLOW OF PROHIBITION.

The British, having no knowledge of these facts, and no familiarity with any institution wholly analogous to our Supreme Court, thinks that the prohibition of liquor on their ships, is the direct and intended result of an act of Congress passed for that specific purpose.

In truth this is far from the cause. It would never have occurred to any member of Congress to pass a statute deliberately aimed to prohibit liquor on British ships. The present interpretation, which has given rise to this embarrassment, while it must be respected, because it has been found by the Supreme Court to be inherent in the language of the statute, was wholly unanticipated, and was not at all in the minds of the Congress that passed it.

By the same token it would be comparatively simple for Congress to pass an amendment to the law designed to get rid of the present interpretation. This is what is always done when the Supreme Court rules that the original language of a statute has an interpretation contrary to, or going beyond, the true intent of Congress.

I say it would be comparatively simple to get Congress to amend the Act so as to relieve the present situation. It may readily be possible that all the commotion that has arisen and all the acrimony that has been uttered about this incident may have created a state of mind which will make it less easy to pass such an amendment.

The interpretation of statutes by our Supreme Court has frequently embarrassed and impeded the will of a majority of American people in cases more important and more charged with feeling than the present one. In 1896 Congress passed the first law providing for a national income tax. The Supreme Court, acting wholly within the obligation of its duty, ruled that the statute, as passed, was contrary to the constitution. Thereupon the statute became void, and it was seventeen years until we were able, in 1913, finally to get an income tax law in terms consistent with the Supreme Court's interpretation.

In the same way, several years ago, Congress passed a law forbidding the labour of children in factories. Within a year, the Supreme Court had interpreted this statute as inconsistent with the constitution; and we are now busy with devising means of achieving the prohibition of child labour in terms consistent with the interpretation of the Supreme Court.

UNIMPEACHABLE MOTIVES.

In short, the American people have frequently been put to much more inconvenience by our Supreme Court than Britain has in the present case. Nevertheless, our people value the Supreme Court above almost any other one of our institutions. (I think that many thoughtful Englishmen have frequently wished for an analogous institution.) Some Americans sometimes talk seriously of limiting the Court's powers somewhat, but practically no American ever fails to appreciate its value in the management of our democracy.

Another phase of the British comment on this recent incident, which is acutely painful to Americans, is the assumption, occasionally found in important British sources, that the Supreme Court of the United States handed down this decision with the intention and for the purpose of putting British ships on an equality with American ships. Such an assumption includes the innuendo that the Supreme Court would take into consideration a motive of commercial self-interest.

This is so remote from the faintest element of possibility that the utterance of it is seriously depressing to American readers. There is no institution in the world more rigidly oblivious to all motives whatever, except the simple interpretation of legal words, than the Supreme Court of the United States. There is no institution in the world more secure in its sanctity and in its reputation for an integrity so great that no American ever harbours the idea of even discussing it.

WEATHER REPORT.

July 31st at 18.30.—Warning to Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.—Depression or typhoon of unknown intensity within 120 miles of Lat. 14 deg. N. Long. 127 deg. E., moving West.

August 1st at 11.45.—Warning to Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.—Depression or typhoon of unknown intensity within 80 miles of Lat. 14 deg. N. Long. 125 deg. E., moving West.

August 1st at 12.12.—Pressure has decreased moderately and Manila and Legaspi and slightly from Shanghai to Formosa. It is nearly stationary near Hongkong to Haiphong.

The depression over S.W. China is unchanged.

The typhoon continues to move westward. At 6 a.m. this morning it was about 370 miles East of Manila.

Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m., 1st August, 0.14 inch. Total since January 1st, 45.37 inches, against an average of 52.04 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon, 2nd Aug., is as follows:—

Formosa Channel ... N. winds, moderate.
Hongkong to Gap Rock ... E. winds, moderate; S.W. winds, moderate.
South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamoo ... do.
South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan ... S.E. winds, moderate.

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TSINGTAU via SWATOW ...	"YATSHING"	Sunday	5th Aug. 9 a.m.
BANGKOK via HOIHOW ...	"CHUNNSANG"	Tuesday	7th Aug. 8 a.m.
BANGKOK via SWATOW ...	"KWAISANG"	Tuesday	7th Aug. 4 p.m.
SHANGHAI via SWATOW ...	"ESANG"	Wednesday	8th Aug. 10 a.m.
TSINGTAU ...	"CHONGSHING"	Wednesday	8th Aug. 2 p.m.
KOBE via MOJI ...	"FOOKSANG"	Friday	10th Aug. 8 a.m.
HAIPHONG via HOIHOW ...	"LEESANG"	Friday	10th Aug. 2 p.m.
STRAITS & CALCUTTA ...	"HOSANG"	Saturday	11th Aug. 3 p.m.
SANDAKAN ...	"HINSANG"	Friday	3rd Aug. 4 p.m.

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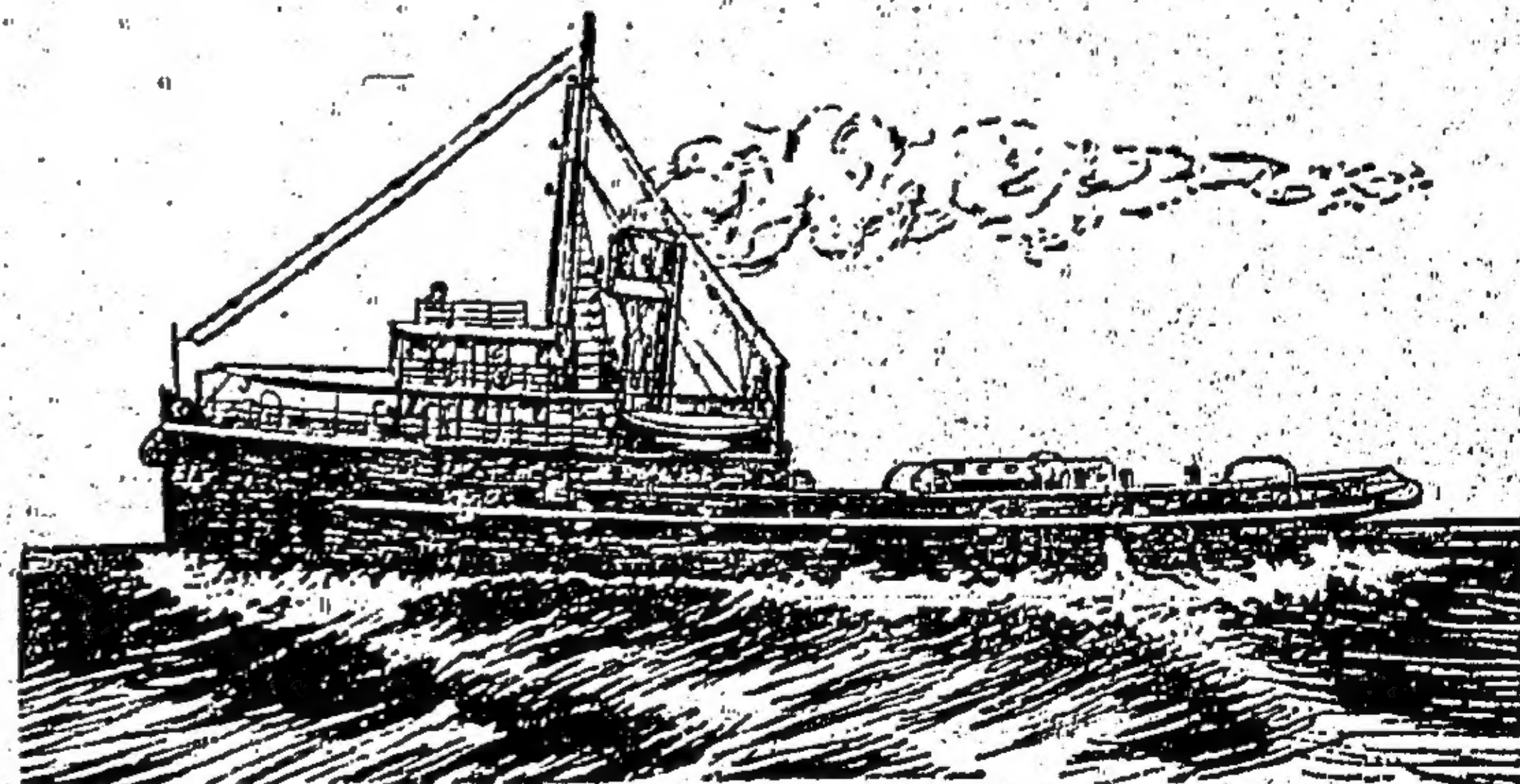
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